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## Commonwealth heads urged to extend individual freedoms in a new age of democracy

### Major calls for end to one-party states

FROM ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR, IN HARARE

JOHN Major yesterday urged the Commonwealth to turn its back on one-party states and step into a new age of democracy. He called for a clear, crisp statement of principles to make governments more accountable and to extend freedom of expression.

The prime minister outlined three basic aims in advance of the Commonwealth heads of government meeting that begins today: to improve communications "so that we stop each other constantly re-inventing the wheel"; to look after smaller states better; and to "help the world to negotiate" by taking the first steps in analysing problems and suggesting solutions.

Mr Major told his colleagues in Harare that the time had come to move from words to reality. "There can be no

higher priority than to help to foster and strengthen in our countries a democratic culture, to help each other along the path towards justice, prosperity and a genuine common purpose." They should, he said, "Use democracy to achieve real change and to help deliver what has come to be known as good government to our peoples. The Harare declaration should not be afraid to single this out as a commitment which makes the Commonwealth different to all other groupings."

A high-level appraisal group of ten leaders yesterday approved draft proposals for a redefinition of the Commonwealth's role to go to the full meeting of heads of government beginning today. To sharpen the debate and to ensure that the final declaration reflects what British sources call "a clear, compelling, eye-catching programme of action", the British delegation has circulated its own draft communiqué.

Britain is driving for unequivocal commitment to principles of "good government" throughout the 50 countries. These are held to include free elections and a free press, respect for the rule of law and human rights, arms spending limited to defence needs and the conduct of a free market economy.

But Britain is not receiving universal support. Dr Mahatir Mohamad, the Malaysian prime minister who chaired the appraisal group, is opposed to linking aid to good government. President Mugabe of Zimbabwe, who is hosting the summit, is also said to have reservations, and the Ghanaian delegation are objecting to what are called "lectures from former colonialists". Further opposition is likely to emerge as the debate moves from the appraisal group to the full meeting.

There are clearly some difficulties in reconciling the British draft with the version tabled by the Commonwealth secretariat. Chief Eneke Anyaoku, the secretary-general, said that a final declaration was not expected to emerge until the leaders went into their period of "retreat" at Victoria Falls next week.

In spite of the differences on the communiqué, Britain is no longer an isolated target for all



Harare heads: John Major flanked by President Kaunda of Zambia and Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, Malaysia's prime minister, yesterday

as it has been at recent Commonwealth meetings, and Mr Major and Douglas Hurd have been delighted to find that the group is ready to tackle issues other than apartheid.

The British delegation says that sanctions against South Africa are yesterday's issue and it is pressing for their early removal. Nelson Mandela, the African National Congress leader, is due to lunch with Mr Major in Harare today, and the British group had reports last night that the ANC was preparing to support swifter moves to end sanctions.

Under a formula agreed by a Commonwealth group in New Delhi earlier this year, "people to people" sanctions covering sport and cultural exchanges were to go first, followed by trade sanctions when interim constitutional arrangements were agreed. Economic sanctions would be lifted only with the achievement of one man, one vote.

Now, the ANC is believed to be prepared to accelerate the process by merging stages

two and three, although it was unclear last night what the trigger would be.

The ANC and the more radical Pan Africanist Congress have been invited as observers to the Harare conference and besides his lunch with Mr Major, Mr Mandela is due to have meetings with the leaders of Canada, Nigeria and Tanzania, among others. Before leaving Johannesburg for Zimbabwe last night, Mr Mandela said he would be raising the question of township violence and the training of a post-apartheid bureaucracy as well as sanctions. He said that violence had reached an unacceptable level, but declined to detail what he would be asking of the Commonwealth leaders.

"We are not going to be dogmatic about our approaches," he said. "We want to start now. We are going to urge the Commonwealth countries to keep a sharp eye on developments here."

Britain will not oppose any propositions that Mr Mandela might address the meeting, but it seems that efforts to have the South African government invited as an observer have made no progress. Discussions were said last night to be continuing.

Chief Anyaoku said last night that the discussions in the high-level group had been "upbeat and positive". As for South Africa, they had reaffirmed the continued determination of the Commonwealth "to be as helpful as possible".

Amnesty on abuses, page 10  
Diary, page 16  
Leading article, page 17



Mugabe has reservations about Major's aims

### Thatcher seals memoirs deal

By SIMON TAIT

THE battle to publish Mrs Thatcher's memoirs has been won by HarperCollins. The fee has not been disclosed though persistent publishing rumour puts it at £5 million.

The deal was struck with Marvin Josephson, Mrs Thatcher's agent, after negotiations lasting for several weeks. HarperCollins, an amalgam of the British house, Collins, and the American Harper Row came into being after they were acquired by Rupert Murdoch last year. The house is thought to have beaten

Doubleday and Macmillan to the contract. HarperCollins has worldwide serial rights except for Japan. "Mrs Thatcher has special relationships in Japan, so that has been excluded from the contract," Mr Bell said.

The book is to be published in two volumes, the first to appear at the end of 1993. Last night, HarperCollins scotched any notion that Mrs Thatcher would have a ghost writer. Eddie Bell, chief executive of HarperCollins, who will be Mrs Thatcher's "personal

publisher", insists that "she will be writing the book herself. I believe she already has substantial notes".

But readers may be disappointed not to find the kind of character assassination which has become a hallmark of political autobiographies. "What we have got here is a serious historical record, some of the most significant years of our history written by the person who was at the heart of it. We're not interested in a scurrilous book, and neither is Mrs Thatcher," he said.

### Senators swing towards Thomas

FROM PETER STOTHARD  
US EDITOR  
IN WASHINGTON

JUDGE Clarence Thomas appeared to be heading towards victory in the Senate last night after a weekend of allegations of sexual harassment which have transfixed America.

As President Bush lobbied waverers on behalf of his nominee to the Supreme Court, Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, predicted that "we have the votes to win".

Although partisans on both sides were alert for a sudden new evidence that might change the vote, Senator Patrick Leahy, a Vermont Democrat and opponent of the confirmation, said the White House "had the clout" and would probably succeed in adding another conservative voice to the nation's highest court.

The White House received one of its biggest postbags on the confirmation. "Two to one were in favour of the judge and against his accuser, Professor Anita Hill," the spokesman said. Congress received five times its usual number of telephone calls yesterday.

Senate whodunit, page 12  
David Pannick, page 16  
Leading article, page 17

### Labour keeps poll lead as NHS battle intensifies

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND NICHOLAS WOOD

LABOUR has emerged from the party conference season with a two-point lead over the Conservatives, according to a poll published last night after furious Commons exchanges over the health service.

An ICM survey for *The Guardian* shows Labour up four points at 43 per cent, the Conservatives up two points at 41 per cent, and the Liberal Democrats dropping five points to 12 per cent. The poll, taken last Friday as the Tory conference ended, and Saturday, suggests that Labour's pre-election conference may have made the greater impact on the public although it is uncertain whether the full effect of John Major's closing speech to the Conservatives is reflected in the figures. The poll makes gloomy reading for the Liberal Democrats.

The political struggle over the health service will be given fresh impetus today when William Waldegrave, the health secretary, announces that the government is pressing ahead with a big increase in hospitals opting out of health authority control. In exchanges that confirmed that both sides regard health as the key election battleground, Neil Kinnock yesterday seized his first Commons opportunity since the summer recess to repeat his charge that the government was privatising the NHS, provoking rowdy scenes in the chamber.

The Labour leader infuriated Conservative MPs. One called him a liar, and John MacGregor, the leader of the House, standing in for the prime minister, accused him of "engaging in the smears and fears again". It was a foretaste of the passions that will inevitably resurface today when Mr Waldegrave tells MPs that he has approved the vast majority of the 113 applications to form a second wave of self-governing trusts.

Last year, he approved 85 per cent of the applications for trust status and he appears set to sanction much the same proportion this year. If he approves many fewer than 90 trusts, he will invite accusations from Labour that he is retreating from the pioneering way of running hospitals in the face of its privatisation jibe.

All the indications last night were that the health secretary has no intention of handing ammunition to his critics. He was said to be ready to stand by his pledge to the Tory conference to go "straight on down the middle and complete out reforms".

In the Commons Mr MacGregor fiercely denied Mr Kinnock's accusation. There was no question of trust hospitals being outside the NHS, he said. Ministers had claimed to have detected the

### Why US general wants to stay in Europe

America is beginning to wonder if Europe can be trusted to keep the peace without US troops.  
Martin Fletcher reports

America's military commanders have come up with a new justification for keeping US forces in Europe with the Cold War only a memory.

The problem is no longer the Soviet Union, they say, but the quarrelling Europeans, who must be protected from themselves. It is a thesis that will raise a few European hackles, not least because the American military has shown little enthusiasm for sorting out the complexities of Yugoslavia.

The key proponent of the new argument is General John Galvin, Nato's supreme allied commander, who says that the American presence has promoted a stable Europe throughout the second half of the 20th century and that the prime American mission now is to keep the Europeans entangled in a web of mutual obligations.

"The only other strategy you could have would be Fortress America," Gen Galvin said. "I mean, you could go home and leave Europe to itself, but we know that didn't work. It didn't work before. We doubt it would work again."

General Galvin's theme is taken up by other US military leaders. Europeans, says General Crosbie Saint, the US army commander in Europe, "have different ethnic backgrounds, different views of the world, speak different languages... and some of them don't even like each other, to put it rather bluntly".

"I've had Germans tell me Germans are better people with Americans around," General Robert Oaks, commander of US air forces in Europe said, over the protests of his public affairs officer. "If you talk to other countries, they would say Nato is a better place with Americans here... People have a hard time imagining the French and the Germans fighting today. But the history of mankind, as recorded, is a lot of fights in western Europe, so I take an

Continued page 24, col 6

#### TODAY IN THE TIMES

##### FAIR GAME?



"On those rare occasions when we make mistakes, we admit them," Tony Hall, the BBC's director of news and current affairs, answers charges of bias  
Page 13

##### GENERATION GAP



Ivy Brexnan is fighting for control of her grandson in a TV soap. The new Children Act gives real grandparents extra rights but do they deserve them? Page 14

##### NO CARBUNCLES



The Prince of Wales's vision of a new village that will not spoil the Dorset countryside has been unveiled. Marcus Binney assesses it Page 4

##### INSIDE

Arts	15.22
Births, marriages, deaths	18.19
Classified	19.31-35
Law Report	36
Leading articles	17
Letters	17
Life and Times	14
Media	13
Obituaries	18
Parliament	8
Property	31.33

Employers seeking chief executives, managers and other senior staff are advertising tomorrow in *The Times* 12-page appointments section, circulated in Britain



### Eros starts to crack up at the age of 98

By ALAN HAMILTON



Eros: dispute about his sense of direction

ELDERLY lovers should be handled with care; they are not up to the passionate gymnastics of youth. After a bout with two partners at once Eros, aged 98, has fractured his leg and will have to go to hospital.

Not that it was entirely his fault. But if you insist on taking up such a provocative pose in Piccadilly Circus, standing on tiptoe with one leg ballistically extended in the direction of Shaftesbury Avenue, you could reasonably be said to be asking for it. Soliciting, even.

Engineers from Westminster city council inspected Eros after police apprehended two persons, sex unknown, who climbed the plinth and sat on the outstretched leg. That unnatural act had caused two cracks in the lower portion of the other leg, on which the Greek god of love supports himself, and a slight

deformation of his thigh. Surgeons specify an operation. "We will have to lift him off, take him to a workshop, cut out the affected areas, and weld in new sections of aluminium," David Yeocell, the council manager in charge of Westminster's statues, said yesterday. It is only seven years since Eros was sent to an aluminium clinic for refurbishment of his old bones.

Eros, who is not really Eros at all but the angel of Christian charity erected to commemorate the philanthropic works of the seventh Earl of Shaftesbury, may be given lengthy therapy to counteract an aluminium statue's equivalent of osteoporosis. Engineers are considering filling his hollow members with resin to give him extra strength for any future frolics.

Removal yet again of Sir Alfred Gilbert's sculpture from the top of the memorial fountain has stirred the old debate about whether he should be standing pointing his backside up Shaftesbury Avenue and firing his arrow in the vague direction of Piccadilly. Some believe he should be firing up the avenue as he is a monument to Lord Shaftesbury. Westminster council has even been accused of re-erecting him back to front when it moved the memorial 40ft to its present off-centre position in 1984.

There is, however, no evidence that he has ever pointed any other way. English Heritage, which supervised his last return from hospital, says there is nothing to suggest he ever faced up the avenue, and photographs in *The Times* archives all show him pointing in his present direction. It is enough for an old boy in his condition to be standing on one leg, without having to perform pirouettes.

### FREE BOOKLET ON MAKING YOUR WILL

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# Nationalists fear Brooke may deal Ulster a stronger hand



Collins: will raise pro-Unionist issue

THE Irish government is expected to seek clarification tomorrow from Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary, over what it fears may be a policy shift towards strengthening Ulster's role within the United Kingdom, perhaps with the aim of wooing Unionists in the run-up to the election.

Yesterday Irish government sources made clear Dublin's anxiety over recent statements by Mr Brooke and by Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, which suggest the government may be moving to appease Unionists by improving the government of Northern Ireland within a United Kingdom

## Anxiety is gripping Dublin over a possible policy shift by the British government in favour of Unionists, Edward Gorman reports

framework. Gerry Collins, the Irish foreign minister, is expected to raise the issue during an Anglo-Irish Conference meeting in London tomorrow. Informed sources in Dublin say that there is concern that Mr Brooke, in a recent interview in *The Irish Times*, signalled only reluctant acceptance of the Anglo-Irish agreement rather than open commitment and that he did not

demonstrate sufficient acknowledgement of nationalist concerns in Northern Ireland.

In addition, Irish officials have been surprised by a decision by Mr Brooke in a speech at last week's party conference to highlight as "a major theme" in any future talks measures to improve the scrutiny of Northern Ireland legislation. This was seen by some as a possible signal in favour of a select

committee at Westminster, which Unionists have been seeking for years but which the government has resisted on the grounds that it might harm the prospects for a devolution settlement which, in any case, might obviate the need for such a committee.

The Irish are also concerned about a lecture by Mr Hurd during the conference which implied that the agenda for the future of Northern Ireland was not about partition or the border but how best it could run its affairs within the United Kingdom. Mr Hurd emphasised that the debate had moved on and that there was a

stronger sense of realism about Northern Ireland's future.

Social Democratic and Labour party sources said yesterday that they were awaiting "illumination" about what they termed a "strange speech". They suspect Mr Hurd may have been selected to deliver signals of a shift in policy, allowing Mr Brooke to retain room for manoeuvre in any new talks.

Party sources said that if Mr Hurd's speech turned out to be government policy, it signalled the end of the Brooke initiative and a disgraceful capitulation to the Unionist veto. Most observers suspect that the sudden integra-

tionist-sounding rhetoric may be aimed at wooing Unionists as an insurance policy against a hung parliament next year. It could also be, however, that Mr Brooke was pandering to Northern Ireland Conservatives at the conference who advocate integrationist improvements in the government of Northern Ireland.

One other intriguing possibility is that Mr Brooke may have privately concluded that irrespective of any election, he can take steps to improve government in Northern Ireland whether or not his ambitions for legislative devolution in Belfast succeed.

## Rail fare increase of 7% condemned as unjustifiable

By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

RAIL, Tube, and bus user organisations yesterday expressed outrage over average fare rises at almost twice the level of inflation in spite of two government interventions to cap the annual fare increase on certain commuter routes.

British Rail announced a mean increase of 7.75 per cent for all Network SouthEast and InterCity rail fares and season tickets, effective from January 5. Ticket prices on most Network SouthEast routes will, however, go up by 7.9 per cent, with an additional 1 per cent premium on routes that have benefited from recent investment schemes.

Fares on London Transport's Underground, bus, and light rail services are to rise by an average of 7.5 per cent,

putting most adult single fares up by 10p, with some long-distance journeys up by 20p. The present 80p charge for journeys in the central zone, along with single child fares, will remain the same.

The Central Transport Consultative Committee, the national rail watchdog, condemned the fare increases, and accused BR of exploiting its monopoly position. "It is quite unjustifiable for BR to raise fares by almost twice the rate of inflation, especially when InterCity and Network SouthEast achieved hardly any of their quality targets in 1990-91," the committee said.

BR's original plan to impose a 2 per cent premium on the recently modernised Liverpool Street-Southend, Great

Northern-West Anglia, Thameslink North, Euston-Norhampton, and Waterloo-Weymouth lines, was rejected by John Major, the prime minister, as excessive. BR's premium fare rises were capped after Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, had already trimmed increases on other routes.

Stephen Joseph, of Transport 2000, said that the fare increases would encourage more people to transfer from rail to the overcrowded roads. He added: "It's all very well limiting fare rises for poor services, but without extra government funding there is no way these will be brought up to scratch."

The dispute over BR's fare increases triggered a Commons clash at prime minister's questions. John MacGregor, the Commons leader, who was standing in for John Major, hailed the prime minister's efforts to hold down increases on some lines pending better services as an example of the citizen's charter in action (Nicholas Wood writes).

However, Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, argued that John Major was torn between wanting to sell off BR and wanting to run it. The travelling public were now paying in full for the government's 11 years of neglect.

John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, said that at nearly twice the rate of inflation, the fare increases were far too high.

Parliament, page 9  
Richard Hope, page 16

InterCity SuperSavers from London		
Destination	1991	1992
Edinburgh	55.00	57.00
Manchester	31.00	33.00
Liverpool	31.00	33.00
Birmingham	22.00	23.00
York	39.00	42.00
Bristol	24.00	25.00
Cardiff	29.00	30.00
Plymouth	41.00	42.00
Peterborough	18.00	19.00
Swindon	20.00	21.00

InterCity annual season tickets to London		
Destination	1991	1992
Birmingham	4,180	4,532
Bristol	4,892	5,044
Peterborough	3,172	3,482
Swindon	3,452	3,752
Doncaster	4,856	5,288

Network SouthEast standard single to London		
Destination	1991	1992
Northampton	12.00	12.80
Oxford	10.80	11.50
Cardiff	3.30	3.50
Chichester	12.00	12.80
Weymouth	25.50	27.20
Swindon	14.00	14.80
Woking	13.00	14.00
Huntingdon	4.70	5.10
Bedford	11.30	12.10
Bedford	9.40	10.10

Network SouthEast annual season tickets to London		
Destination	1991	1992
Northampton	2,100	2,284
Oxford	2,224	2,400
Cardiff	1,050	1,140
Chichester	2,096	2,280
Weymouth	1,648	1,796
Swindon	3,298	3,580
Woking	1,540	1,640
Huntingdon	2,088	2,276
Bedford	1,896	2,064

## NUT demands pay rises of up to 25%

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

THE biggest teachers' union is demanding a pay rise of up to 25 per cent - more than six times the current rate of inflation - in its submission to the new Teachers' Pay Review Body.

The National Union of Teachers called for 100,000 extra teachers to ensure improved working conditions, an across-the-board pay rise of 10 per cent and a £1,500 flat-rate payment for all. The rise would lift some teachers' salaries by 25 per cent and would add 19.5 per cent to the £8 billion annual wage bill for the country's 400,000 teachers.

The Opposition attacked the 13 city technology colleges, which it claims are taking money from mainstream state education. Jack Straw, Labour's frontbench

education spokesman, said that the colleges had failed to attract the intended support from industry and were costing taxpayers £105 million in capital grants this year. This worked out at about £7,450 a pupil, 79 times more than the average of £94 a pupil in state schools, which received grants of £103 million. Taxpayers were providing 80 per cent of the colleges' start-up costs and all running expenses, he said.

Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, said: "The figures are absolutely absurd. Jack Straw is comparing new schools with existing schools. If we are now going to have a campaign that we are privatising education, it is a rather silly follow-up to the deeply dishonest campaign on the National Health Service."

## Bogus lecturer taught for 8 years

A BOGUS lecturer with almost no qualifications was exposed as a fraud yesterday after teaching at a college for eight years.

Education officials said they would tighten up their vetting procedures after Paul Carey, aged 40, bluffed the Mid Glamorgan authority out of more than £82,000 in salary. He admitted deception after it was discovered he had lied to obtain a post at Pontypridd Technical College.

Merthyr crown court heard he was appointed to teach life and social skills after claiming he had eight O-levels, two A-levels, an honours degree and a post-graduate education diploma. In his eight years at the college, Carey taught hundreds of students and was appointed to mark O-level English papers for the Welsh Joint Education Committee.

But Carey, of Pontypridd, Mid Glamorgan, left secondary school with just five CSE passes. He was given a two-month jail sentence, suspended for a year, and ordered to pay costs.

He claimed he had been assured the post because he was a member of the Labour party and had only put down false qualifications to boost his application. Graham Dunn, county education personnel manager, later rejected his version. Several efforts had been made to inspect Carey's qualifications, but he never produced any documents and claimed they were already with the education authority, Mr Dunn said.

"We have now tightened up on our checks so that certificates are viewed by our salary department, ideally before or immediately after an appointment is made," he added.

## NHS predicted to take the lead in private beds

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE number of private beds within NHS hospitals will outstrip provision in the private sector within five years, a leading private health care consultant said yesterday.

Peter Townsend, former chairman of Bioplan Holdings, which has pioneered joint ventures with the NHS, said health service managers were beginning to compete successfully for a potential £500 million annual market.

Although the health service had been "sluggish" in recent years in generating income from the 3,000 pay beds in their hospitals, the NHS reform had resulted in managers taking an increasingly businesslike approach. The NHS had the management expertise and financial information to capture the main share of the market, he said.

"There will be more private practice within the NHS than in the private sector within five years," Mr Townsend said. "The NHS is no longer sleeping and slumbering. I think the growth in their interest and activity [in private health care] will be very substantial. This means of delivering private health care will be far more acceptable at the end of the century."

Speaking at the launch of the latest edition of the *Fitzhugh Directory of Independent Health Care*, Mr Townsend said that more hospitals were now setting up private wings and initiating ventures with private firms to attract some of the seven million people covered by health insurance.

At the end of last year there were 13 dedicated private wings in NHS hospitals, mainly in London. A recent telephone survey by health care analyst William Laing shows, however, that by July there were 18 private units on NHS sites. Most of the new

wings had been built in the shire counties. Bioplan now has 11 joint ventures with health authorities where the company had built a small hospital or wing on an NHS site. The company puts in the capital in return for a share of the profits from the private income raised.

"Irrespective of which political party is in government, the NHS has the opportunity in the medium to long term to become by far the largest and most successful owner and operator of high-standard, value-for-money private patient facilities," said Mr Townsend in an article in the directory.

Although the NHS has only 3,100 pay beds compared with the 13,000 in the private sector, the amount of money they generate has increased significantly since the Health and Medicines Act came into force in 1989 allowing NHS hospitals to make profits for the first time.

The directory shows that the income raised from NHS pay beds in England jumped from £76.9 million to £91.6 million between 1988/9 and 1989/90, a 19 per cent rise.

Nevertheless, William Fitzhugh, a health care adviser and the directory's editor, said that the NHS could poten-

tially double its income from its existing beds. While the NHS gets an average £30,000 per pay bed per annum, independent operators such as Charitable Nuffield Hospitals, raised an average £60,000 per private bed.

The directory shows that private hospitals had a boom year in 1989/90, with revenue up by 16.4 per cent to £659 million, partly because many hospitals had consolidated their position for seven or eight years, and partly because they were able to levy high charges at the expense of medical insurers.

However, following losses incurred by BUPA, which reported a £63 million underwriting loss last year due to excessive claims, Mr Fitzhugh predicted that charges will have to come down. "The pendulum will swing back in favour of BUPA."

The success of the private sector over the next few years would also depend on whether the reforms succeeded in reducing waiting lists, which could result in less demand for private medical insurance, he said.

1991-92 Fitzhugh Directory of Independent Healthcare. (Health care information services, 12 Riverview Grove, London W4 3QJ, £220)

	Total paybeds	Revenue (£m)	Change on previous year %
1980/1	2,405	48.4	29.2
1981/2	2,677	54.1	18.6
1982/3	2,919	51.5	-4.8
1983/4	2,987	55.5	7.8
1984/5	3,019	55.8	0.2
1985/6	2,967	60.9	9.2
1986/7	2,980	58.0	-3.1
1987/8	2,970	68.9	13.4
1988/9	2,980	76.9	14.9
1989/90	2,971	91.6	19.1

Source: DoH/Fitzhugh Directory

## Baker prepares to act on squatters

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT plans to make it easier for homeowners to evict squatters were announced yesterday by Kenneth Baker, home secretary.

Describing existing legal remedies against squatting as "patently unsatisfactory", Mr Baker told the Commons that the law needed changing to safeguard owners' rights. Ministers, who had given no indication that they were planning a crackdown on squatting, believe the move will be widely popular, particularly among private landlords. An estimated 50,000 people are

unlawfully occupying premises in England and Wales.

The Home Office yesterday published a consultation paper, inviting comments by next April, suggesting four options, ranging from maintaining the status quo to making it a crime to occupy unlawfully any property.

Under the most favoured option, it would become a criminal offence to ignore a request from an owner or authorised tenant to vacate a residential property. The offence would arise only if the owner or tenant had recently

vacated the property and would not cover disputes between sitting tenants and landlords. Ministers are wary of including non-residential premises in such a law, although concerned about the number of empty shops illegally occupied and used as "pitches" for the sale of sub-standard goods.

The paper dismisses the argument that squatting is a reasonable recourse for the homeless. "Squatters are generally there by their own choice, moved by no more than self-gratification or an

unwillingness to respect other people's rights," it says.

At present, the criminal law covers only squatting by which occupiers are made homeless. In other cases, owners must go to the civil courts, which takes time and can cost up to £800. An owner can be prosecuted for forcibly entering a property to regain possession.

For Labour, Roy Hattersley, shadow home secretary, accepted that action had to be taken to reduce squatting, but said that homelessness had to be tackled more urgently.

## Sectarian gunmen kill again

A man was shot and killed in Belfast yesterday hours after the Ulster Freedom Fighters admitted murdering a Catholic taxi driver in his cab.

In the latest in a series of random sectarian killings in Belfast, two men entered a timber yard in Ravenhill Road and shot John McGuigan, aged 24, of Lenadoon Avenue, Belfast. He died in hospital.

On Monday night Hugh Conlon, aged 54, a taxi driver, of Andersonstown, west Belfast, was shot six times in the head after answering a call to pick up a passenger in a predominantly Protestant housing estate in Belfast.

## Jail officers fail in court

An attempt by the Prison Officers' Association to halt an enquiry into alleged ill-treatment of patients by staff at Ashworth special hospital on Merseyside failed in the High Court yesterday.

Mr Justice Kennedy rejected claims that association nurses accused of assaulting staff had been denied natural justice and that Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, the enquiry's chairman, was biased against the union. The enquiry, suspended on September 12 after the association withdrew from it, resumes on Monday.

## Manslaughter verdict

A man was cleared yesterday of the murder of his wife and her lover. Stewart Porter, aged 33, an airport worker, of Edgware, north London, shot to death Alan Ward, aged 44, and stabbed Nicola Porter, aged 28, after she taunted him about the affair.

But the jury at the Old Bailey found him guilty of manslaughter of his wife on the basis of provocation and of Ward on the grounds of diminished responsibility. Sentence on Porter, a father of two, was adjourned for social enquiry reports.

## New archbishop

The Bishop of St Asaph, the Right Rev Alwyn Rice Jones, has been elected Archbishop of the Church in Wales. Bishop Rice Jones, aged 57, is a fluent Welsh speaker who supports the ordination of women priests. He has been Bishop of St Asaph, north Wales, for nearly 10 years and as archbishop will do both jobs. He replaces Dr George Noakes, who retired earlier this year.

## Poll dates

The government will today move to write for two by-elections in Tory-held marginals that will provide John Major with his first electoral test since deciding against holding a general election in November. Polling in the seats of Langbaurgh, Cleveland, and Kincardine and Deeside will take place on November 7, previously favoured by Tory party managers for a general election.

## Kidnap suspect

Police in North Wales have arrested a man aged 36 in connection with the kidnapping of a Tesco supermarket manager's family at Colchester, Essex, in August. The arrest, at Capel Curig, Gwynedd, followed a reconstruction of the family's ordeal on the BBC's *Crimewatch UK* programme on Thursday. Police said yesterday that officers from Essex were travelling to Llandudno to question the man.

## Channel record

A catamaran passenger ferry yesterday claimed the record for the fastest Channel crossing with an average speed of nearly 45mph. Hoverspeed France covered the 25 miles from Dover to Calais in 34 min 23 sec to beat the previous record of 52 min 49 sec, held since 1982 by Townsend Thoresen's Spirit of Free Enterprise. Tony Stand, the captain, said: "The 18-man crew worked superbly."

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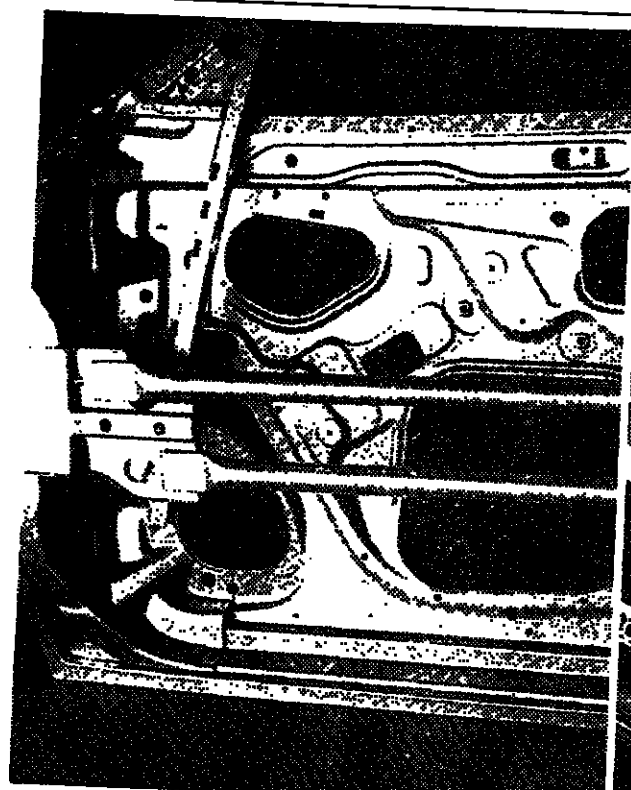
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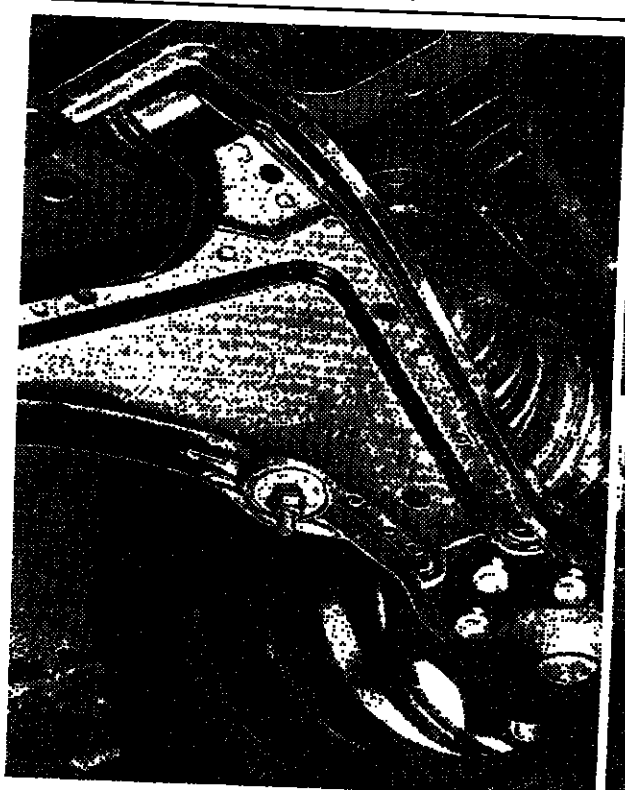
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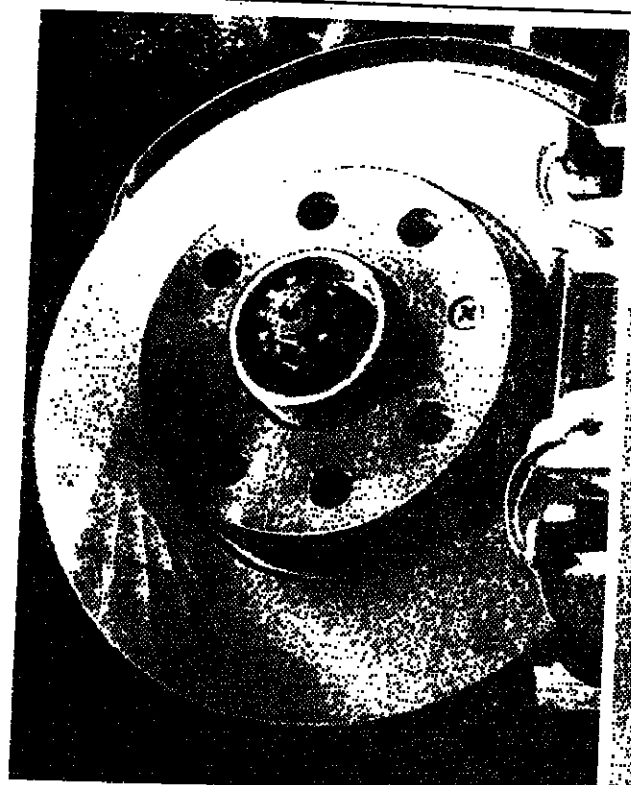
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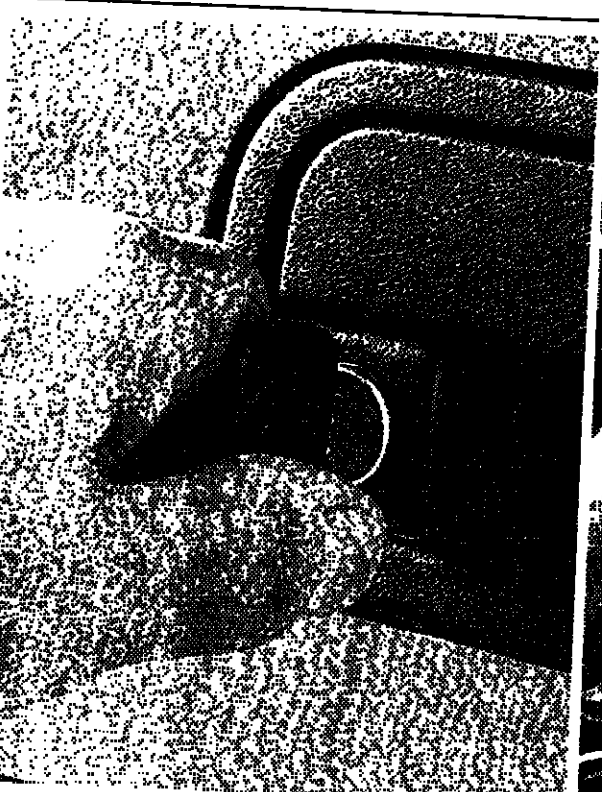
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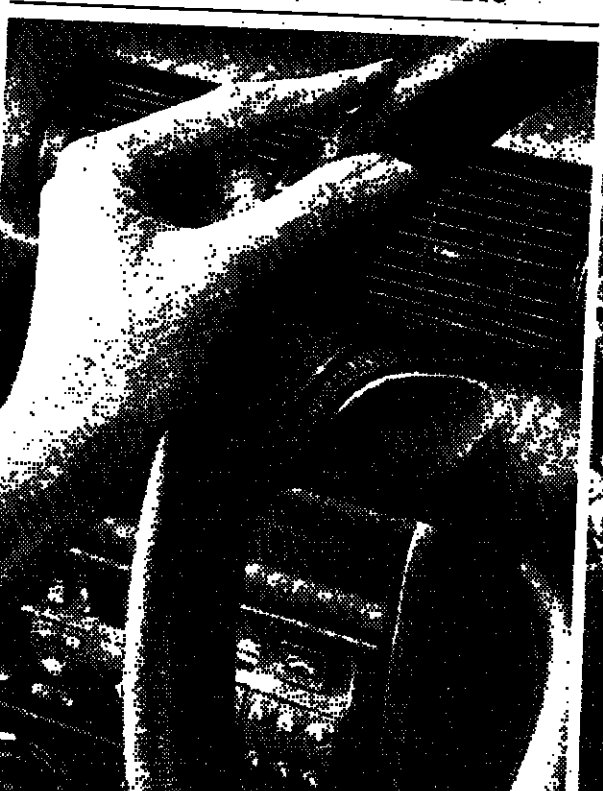
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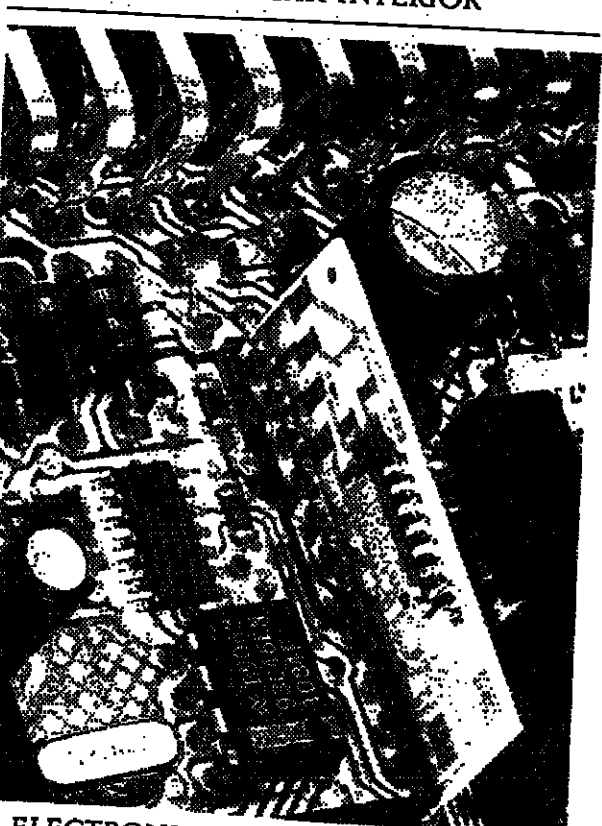
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# Voters will welcome a reduction in the military budget



King: a negligible electoral fall-out

By IVOR CREWE

FOR the Conservatives to shrink the British army and play fast and loose with regimental traditions looks like an offence against the natural political order.

One might expect it from the anti-militarist Labour party, but the Conservatives are the party of strong defence and the military is the Conservative party in uniform. Isn't the government playing with electoral fire?

In fact, the electoral fall-out from Tom King's proposed cuts is likely to be negligible. For one thing, Labour endorses the prin-

## PUBLIC OPINION

ciple, is happy to let the government take the flak, and will not make a party issue out of it. For another, the end of the cold war and Labour's renunciation of unilateralism have pushed defence to the bottom of the public agenda.

When last month's Gallup poll gave respondents a list of ten issues and asked them to say which two would be "most important to you personally when it comes to voting", 4 per cent chose defence and 49 per cent said the

health service. Moreover, the army cuts are not necessarily unpopular. Most voters want a strong nuclear defence and admire the forces but, without any sense of inconsistency, want less money spent on defence.

In a Gallup poll conducted last April, 44 per cent thought the government spent "too much" on armaments and defence and only 9 per cent "too little". By contrast, 80 per cent thought that too little was spent on pensions, education and health.

Opinion is no doubt very different among the military, its

families and nostalgic ex-service men, but their electoral clout is limited. Conservative back-benchers no longer possess the extensive military connections of a generation ago. In 1959 almost all of them had done national service and 37 had been professional soldiers. By 1987 most were too young for national service and only 15 had had military careers.

Nor is there an army vote to speak of. The number of "army constituencies" is small and they are safe Conservative seats such as Aldershot, Richmond, and Colchester South & Maldon. Today,

nurses outnumber soldiers and many more constituencies contain hospitals than barracks. In the wider public, concern about Britain's defence capability is largely confined to strong Conservatives who, however much dismayed by the cuts, have no other party for which to vote.

So far, the proposed army cuts have failed to dent the voters' traditional view of the Conservatives as the better party on defence. In September, the Conservatives were preferred to Labour by 54 to 19 per cent and the month before by 55 to 21 per cent.

The government will be able to exploit this trust to carry out the cuts without the electoral damage that a Labour government implementing the same policy would have incurred. Presumably a Labour government would have had much less political difficulty than the Conservatives in reforming the health service. A paradoxical rule in the politics of public spending is that governments can squeeze their allies more easily than they can their enemies.

Ivor Crewe is Professor of Government at the University of Essex.

## Forces will still be able to tackle 'major crisis'

By PETER MULLIGAN AND JOHN WINDER

THE government insisted last night that Britain's defences will be strong enough to deal with a Falklands or Gulf-style confrontation despite the planned cuts in strength.

Alan Clark, minister of state for defence procurement, reassured backbenchers about the ability of the armed forces to face a "really major crisis". He told them at the start of the second day of the Commons defence debate that the key question was whether Britain could meet that kind of challenge again.

He said: "I can say categorically that we could do so. I am entirely satisfied that we could do so now and in the future. Of course, we cannot fight more than one high-intensity conflict simultaneously. That is something that only a super power can do."

Mr Clark reinforced his message by disclosing that contracts for early work on replacing the ageing assault ships HMS Fearless and HMS Intrepid will be awarded next month and promised an announcement early next year on a helicopter support ship.

He also said that the investigation into the losses of six Tornado aircraft, with the death of five aircrew, during the Gulf conflict had been completed. Three of the aircraft had been shot down by enemy surface-to-air missiles; the fourth crashed because of premature detonation of its own weapons; and conclusions on the other two, where the crash site could not be reached, could not be reached.

He went on to announce that a working party of "distinguished experts" has been set up to examine the safety of British nuclear weapons and would report by the end of the year. Their report would be classified, but a statement of its conclusions would be made public. Explaining the move, he said that public attention had begun to focus on the safety and security of the weapons as the threat of nuclear confrontation had receded.

Mr Clark also predicted an extended role for research and development in the civil sector and disclosed that he has written to the chairman of

## COMMONS

some of Britain's largest defence contractors asking for their views on how to improve communications with the defence minister.

Talking of defence cuts, Mr Clark said: "I would not want you to feel I reject in any way the historic value of ancient regiments and the whole aspect of cohesion and morale that runs with a great historical tradition. But it is, these days, a trade off in allocating resources between the insistent demands of high technology and those of tradition."

Allan Rogers, a Labour defence spokesman, said that Labour would rectify the obnoxious privatisation of the manufacture of nuclear weapons which the Conservatives had enacted in the Atomic Weapons Establishments act.

He said that it was hypocritical of ministers to claim credit for British help in the UN agency's work in uncovering Saddam Hussein's work on weapons but forgetting to mention the role of British companies and the government in exporting equipment to Iraq in contravention of UN resolutions.

The only conclusion that could be drawn from the list supplied to the Commons trade and industry committee, of weapons exported to Iraq, was that ministers did not know what was going on, were telling lies, or that the government did not define the weapons listed as lethal. When Saddam Hussein reneged on a deal, the British government had picked up the tab.

Mr Clark said that Mr Rogers had made poisonous charges but they were cast in such general terms that he should be specific about what weapons he was referring to and on what evidence he alleged that the British taxpayer had picked up the bill.

Mr Rogers replied that the Export Credit Guarantees Department had met the bill for listed equipment. Equipment including munition propellants and even the propellants for the big gun had been exported with the complicity of people in Britain. The government was the most secretive the country had had.



Coming round the mountain: RAF Harriers roaring over Wales, one of the areas for the low-flying practice that proved useful in the Gulf war

## Hedge-hopping will fall as squadrons disband

By LIN JENKINS

WHEN RAF jet crews began intensive training in the Gulf, the most frequent request was for more low flying practice. The reasons became all too clear once the crews flew into combat, with Tornado GR1 bombers hugging terrain contours to avoid Iraq's defences.

The geography of Britain, with centres of population only short distances, in terms of jet speeds, from some of the most rugged and remote areas, makes prolonged low flying impossible, as well as unpopular with people on the ground.

For very low flying, down to 100ft, over any real distance, a skill required and executed at the start of the Gulf war before

## LOW FLYING

the Allies gained air superiority. British aircrew have long had to rely on occasional trips to Goose Bay, in Canada, and the air weapons practice area in Sicily.

The number of sorties that included some low flying almost doubled in a decade to 144,000 in 1989 and 141,000 in 1990, mainly because of the reliance on the Tornado. The proposed reduction of 30 per cent in low-level flying by jets over the next three years, announced by the defence ministry on Monday, reflects the cuts in the RAF rather than any change in training.

The phasing of the reduction will follow closely the disbanding of squadrons. The Buccaneers at Lossiemouth, in northeast Scotland, were disbanded this month, as were the first of four Phantom squadrons which will go before October 1992. The first of the Tornado squadrons to go were disbanded last month; another will go in December and the last in May 1992.

Part of the reduction will also be met by the United States closing its airbases. Already 75 A10s, the ground attack aircraft that were deployed so effectively in the Gulf war, have returned to America.

Most low-level flying is carried out at 250ft, with flying down to 100ft allowed only in the Borders, northwest and north Scotland, and mid-Wales. Flying is allowed between 250ft and 2,000ft in most parts of the country except over towns, airports, nuclear power stations and other specially designated areas.

A defence ministry spokesman said: "There is no question of any less skill among pilots, or their having less practice, it is simply a response to the fact that we will have a very much smaller air force."

RAF aircrew are generally pleased that the proposal by the Commons defence committee, made last year, that all flying below 250ft be ended, has not been met. One Tornado pilot who saw service in the Gulf war said: "There were times when we flew very low for very long distances. While we were doing it, we were on a very steep learning curve."

"We had trained for a while as part of Nato, but were called to do something else for which we could have been better prepared."

There will be an increase in other forms of low flying, both with helicopters of the Army Air Corps, which has returned from Germany, and with the new propeller-driven Tucano trainer, both of which make less noise and are likely to help to reduce the £430,000 that the RAF pays annually in compensation claims related to low flying.

## Soldier's £500 race abuse award attacked as derisory

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE award of £500 compensation to a black soldier for racial taunts by his sergeant is derisory, the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) said yesterday. It is considering further legal action.

"It is the minimum an industrial tribunal would award," said Joe Abrams, the commission's deputy chairman. "It is the army sending out a signal that they accept racial discrimination takes place in the service, but this is all you are going to get for it."

Stephen Anderson, formerly a private in the Devon and Dorset Regiment, was awarded the money on Monday by the Army Board after a four-year battle. Last November, the High Court overruled the board's refusal to accept his claim for compensation for harassment. Mr Anderson, now unemployed after his

## COMPENSATION

discharge from the army on medical grounds, had raised 13 separate complaints of racial abuse.

After the High Court set out guidelines for the board, the army accepted that five amounted to harassment, but only one — during a parade ground incident in Berlin when his sergeant had called him a "black bastard", "a coon" and "a nigger" — amounted to harassment during the course of his employment.

The others involved off-duty verbal and physical attacks in barracks by fellow soldiers and therefore did not qualify for compensation, the board said. "We believe they are wrong in this," said Chris Boothman, legal director of the CRE. "There is no difference between the moment

when a soldier is out on exercise or asleep in his barracks."

Mr Anderson, aged 25, said his heart sank when he heard of the award. "I want it to go further for two reasons: the money is nothing and because of the principle." He missed the army life but still suffered nightmares about it.

Henry Hodge, his solicitor, said the case had shown racial harassment existed inside the military at an acceptably high level. The board's decision was a breakthrough for ethnic minorities but the compensation was too low. "It is nothing to the army but it matters to Stephen. This has damaged him tremendously and there ought to be adequate compensation."

Seven other claims of racial harassment backed by the CRE are pending. The first comes before the Army Board next month.



Reliving nightmare days: Stephen Anderson at a CRE press conference in London yesterday

## Navy staff spent £129,000 efficiency bonus on parties

By MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

ROYAL Navy staff spent £129,000, won in a defence ministry efficiency incentive scheme, on two parties last year. The Treasury has agreed to write off the money, which was spent in contravention of government accounting rules.

A navy spokeswoman said yesterday that two parties had been held in August last year on board the Royal Fleet Auxiliary vessel Argus, in Portsmouth and on RFA Sir Galahad at Rosyth, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the supply and transport services section. "All the staff of the supply and transport services branches were invited to attend one or other of the parties," she said. She was unable to explain

## EXPENDITURE

how £129,000 had been spent, or who had organised the parties. Robert Sheldon, Labour MP for Ashton-under-Lyne and chairman of the Commons public accounts committee, said: "If you had a bang-up do in the best hotel in London it would come to less than that. There's something funny here. I shall certainly be asking questions about it."

Details of the "irregular expenditure" appeared yesterday in a report by Sir John Bourn, comptroller and auditor general, who examined the ministry's appropriation accounts for 1990-1. In his report, Sir John said £210,000 of the efficiency award scheme funds had

been spent or irrevocably committed "on novel and contentious items", some of which breached government rules. Apart from the £129,000 for the navy parties, about £80,000 had been spent throughout the services on "out-of-hours" recreational and social facilities, such as club membership of health and leisure centres. None of this expense had been referred for approval. "This constitutes a serious breach of basic financial controls," Sir John said.

The money had been given to the Royal Navy's supply and transport section under a ministry incentive scheme, in which £10 million had been set aside to reward efficiency. The naval support staff had been among the winners. However, any spending of award money had to be

cleared with the ministry's finance division. According to ministry guidelines, awards were supposed to be disbursed for "the benefit of the defence community as a whole and/or to contribute to future efficiency". Particular importance was attached "to the pursuit of value for money".

In June, the ministry told the Treasury about the expenditure but did not seek "retrospective approval". It was accepted that had approval been sought in the first place, it was unlikely the Treasury would have given it. The ministry decided there were no grounds for disciplinary action and ruled out trying to recover the money.

Ministry officials also told the Treasury that the incentive scheme had been scrapped and that steps

were being taken to prevent a repeat of the "disregard for propriety and regularity".

The ministry was also criticised yesterday in a National Audit report for taking up to three and a half years to procure new vehicles, including cars, vans, lorries and trailers. The audit office blamed planning weaknesses and delays in agreeing requirements.

The result was that over-age vehicles remained in service "beyond their economic life". In 1990 about 27 per cent of vehicles due to be taken out of service were saved from the scrapheap because there were no replacements available.

Management of Support Vehicles in the Ministry of Defence (Stationery Office: £5)

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## Cabinet secretary predicts greater dispersal of civil servants

## Whitehall will have to be more open to European future

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

DEVELOPMENTS in the European Community will require the civil service to become more outward looking with a greater ability to work in the languages of member states, the cabinet secretary predicted last night.

He said that to ensure that civil servants could work with Britain's European partners in the Community, officials would have to gain a feel for the cultures of other member states.

Outlining how the present changes, including the *Next Steps* initiative, will affect the civil service, Sir Robin Butler, head of the home civil service, said that, whatever the changes, he hoped that people would continue to recognise the value of a non-political service able to serve government of whatever colour.

Sir Robin said that the service must provide more

flexible career patterns and suggested that changes in information technology would allow for a greater geographical dispersal of work with the prospect of ending some of the congestion and demand for skills in the South-East.

In a lecture organised by the Association of First Division Civil Servants, Sir Robin said that the delegation of executive functions to semi-autonomous agencies set up under the *Next Steps* programme would lead to changes in the role of central government departments.

A report by the prime minister's efficiency unit had suggested that the changing role could lead to big reductions in the staffing of central departments, Sir Robin said that the core departments had to develop a more strategic role. They had to distinguish between what were the centre's essential interests and what should be left to local management without "being subjected to interference and sometimes just plain second guessing from above".

He added: "More delegated management is likely to leave a smaller core of people at the centre". Sir Robin pointed to the fact that only 240 people worked at the world headquarters of Rio Tinto Zinc, a

company employing 82,000 people, such a figure was a challenge to the civil service.

Those at the centre would help ministers to set targets for quality of service and the financial performance of the executive agencies as well as assisting in the preparation of overall policy. He added that there would have to be opportunities for people to transfer from agencies to the centre and vice versa without harming their careers.

Sir Robin added that the civil service had much to gain by being more open to recruitment from outside. "This movement in and out is valuable and the vitality of the civil service is greatly increased by an infusion of those who come in with outside experience and perspectives, just as outside organisations benefit from the services of those who have built up in government a wide knowledge of public affairs."



Sir Robin: service must be more outward looking

## Tories make hay with Nellist and Fields

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TORY chiefs tried to embarrass the Labour leadership yesterday after the confirmation that Dave Nellist and Terry Fields will continue for the time being as Labour MPs despite being suspended from the party.

Chris Patten, the Conservative chairman, said the fact that the two alleged Militant supporters were still receiving the Labour whip proved that Labour claims last month of decisive action against Militant were a deliberate attempt to mislead the public.

In the Commons, there was Tory laughter when an MP asked for help for a constituent (Mr Nellist) "who stands to lose his job and is being victimised at his place of work because of his support for CND and the anti-poll-tax campaign".

Labour seems likely to face derisive attacks on the same lines for the next month or so. They are hamstrung by their own procedures and the requirements of natural justice until the two MPs are expelled from the party. No

## LABOUR WHIP

date has been fixed for the relevant hearing of the internal disciplinary court, the national constitutional committee, at which Mr Nellist and Mr Fields will have their last chance to defend themselves.

The rules of the parliamentary Labour party effectively preclude any action against the two MPs until they are expelled from the party. Immediately that happens, they will lose the Labour whip, ceasing to be Labour MPs.

The whip can be withdrawn only for infringement of party rules governing the behaviour of MPs in the Commons or if an MP is expelled by Labour's ruling national executive. When that happens, a letter will be sent from Larry Whitty, Labour's general secretary, to the parliamentary party and the whip will be withdrawn.

Labour therefore will continue to face derision until their cases have been dealt with. Labour sources

said last night that any discussion about the cases within the parliamentary party might prejudice the case against them.

Mr Patten told Mr Kinnoch in a letter: "Time and again you have promised to rid your party of the influence of Militant. Time and again you have fallen down on the job." He said that last month Mr Kinnoch made great play of the fact that they were finally taking decisive action against Labour MPs who had supported Militant.

"I criticised you for restricting your action to only two MPs when over twenty could and should have been investigated, applying the same criteria that you applied in the case of Messrs Nellist and Fields. Now it turns out you cannot be trusted to take even the limited steps you promised." He added: "Will you tell us once and for all whether you are going to deal resolutely and conclusively with Militant? If not, you should concede that your efforts have been solely dictated by the demands of public relations."



## Ministers defeated in Lords

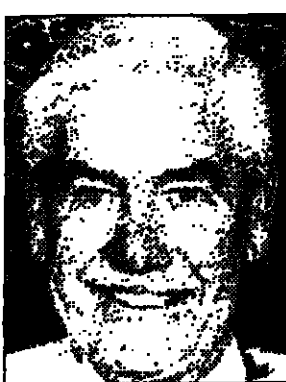
The government was defeated in the Lords over an amendment to the bill that will lead to privatisation of the British Technology Group. By 111 votes to 102 peers insisted that universities should be consulted over the proposed sale of securities.

The BTG's function is to obtain ideas and inventions from universities, government research establishments and private companies and individuals.

## Share sales net £33bn

A total of £33 billion has been raised by the government from privatisation in the ten years to 1990-1. Francis Maude, Treasury financial secretary, said in a written reply.

## New peers



Two new peers were introduced in the House of Lords. They were Sir Norman Macfarlane (above), the industrialist, who was introduced as Lord Macfarlane of Bearsden, and Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, who was introduced as Lord Browne-Wilkinson, a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary.

## Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Trade and industry. Debate on Opposition motion on the manufacturing economy. Lords (2.30): Debate on defence estimates.

## Attack on NHS chief rejected

## NHS SERVICE

THE head of the home civil service, Sir Robin Butler, has responded to Labour party criticism of remarks made by the chief executive of the National Health Service about government plans for the health service (Richard Ford writes).

Robin Cook, shadow health secretary, had asked whether Duncan Nichol's intervention had breached the civil service conditions of service code.

In a letter to Mr Cook, which was made public yesterday, Sir Robin said it was often necessary for civil servants to explain government policy, both before select committees and in other contexts.

"As chief executive of the national health service Mr Nichol has a direct professional responsibility for the staff and patients of the NHS. This responsibility requires him to take a more public role, as chief general manager of the NHS, than would be characteristic of the civil service generally."

Sir Robin said that Mr Nichol's purpose was to reassure staff and patients by putting his own authority behind what ministers have repeatedly said - "namely that it is not the government's policy to privatise the NHS".

Mr Nichol had assured him that it was not his intention to enter into party political debate or to be critical of Labour party policies. "He was seeking to express his uncertainty about their implications for the running of the health service. Such uncertainty is, of course, always a problem up to the point at which senior civil servants can be authorised, as is customary before a general election, to have confidential discussions with leading opposition spokesmen, as you yourself acknowledged" in a published comment.

## Major seeks to curb cabinet's pay rise

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major is expected to clamp down on ministerial pay in the run-up to the general election. The prime minister is powerless to block the inflation-breaking 6.5 per cent rise for MPs next January, but after taking soundings among senior cabinet colleagues and government whips he is likely to ask ministers to accept less than their backbench colleagues.

Government sources said yesterday that ministers' pay would reflect the need to set an example as the cabinet was sensitive to pay levels in the rest of the country. Mr Major may decide to impose

## SALARIES

an increase below the 4.1 per cent inflation rate. Ministerial salaries in the Commons range from £42,272 for parliamentary secretaries to £59,914 for cabinet ministers. Mr Major is paid £72,533.

MPs' salaries will rise from £28,790 to £30,854 because their pay is linked to that of senior civil servants. Mr Major has called for pay restraint several times this year and has condemned big increases for the heads of newly privatised industries.

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## US confident Palestinians will join talks

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

JAMES Baker's gruelling diplomatic crusade to secure the first full Arab-Israeli peace conference since Israel was created in 1948 nears its climax today. At the same time as the American Secretary of State arrives in Jerusalem, leading members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation meet in Tunis to decide whether Palestinians will attend despite what are widely seen as humiliating conditions imposed by Israel.

Mr Baker is due to meet in Jerusalem today the same two Palestinian negotiators who met him twice in Washington last week. A final decision on the Palestinian attitude will be taken by the central council of the PLO in the Tunisian capital. Behind the last-minute diplomatic flurry, there was quiet American confidence that the Palestinians would find it nearly impossible to turn down an invitation to the conference which Mr Baker has said will be convened, even if all preliminary problems are not solved in advance.

"The bus is not going to come again and Palestinians have more to gain from this process and more to lose by its absence than anybody else," Mr Baker said late on Monday night after three hours of talks with King Hussein, who pledged Jordan's willingness to attend. "We will know in a reasonably short time if we will have an active peace process in the region or not," the Secretary of State added

after the talks in Amman, which were followed yesterday by a meeting in Damascus with President Assad of Syria.

Senior American officials have indicated that invitations to the conference will be sent out jointly by Presidents Bush and Gorbachev by next Monday at the latest, after Friday's scheduled meeting in Jerusalem between Mr Baker and Boris Yeltsin, the Soviet foreign minister. One source close to the Baker party said: "The Palestinians may not like what they are getting, but they have to realise that it is the best offer and that it is vital to get all the sides to sit round the table."

Many Palestinians have complained that they are being forced to accept demeaning terms dictated by Israel. The PLO has been cut out of the process, although it is playing a dominant role behind the scenes, and Palestinians from east Jerusalem are being excluded from any delegation because Israel refuses to negotiate a change in the city's status.

● Beirut Kidnappers of Western hostages in Lebanon told a United Nations envoy yesterday they feared for their own safety once all the captives were released, Muslim sources said. Giandomenico Picco, a leading aide to Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN secretary-general, travelled to Lebanon from Syria and met representatives of the pro-Iranian captors of up to nine Western hostages. (Reuters)

## Hard road awaits Uncle Jim

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

AMERICAN tourists admiring the restoration work in the Jewish quarter of the Old City in Jerusalem this week were surprised to see a picture of their Secretary of State defaced by a graffiti artist, who had added a convincing Hitlerian fringe and moustache to the normally impressive features of James Baker.

In any other country the picture, which was pinned to the community bulletin board, would have been dismissed as a schoolboy prank in poor taste and taken down by the local shopkeepers, but in Israel the defaced photograph was left as a reminder that the country's far-right extremists are deadly serious about preventing any diplomatic breakthrough when Mr Baker arrives on his decisive visit to Israel today.

"Uncle Jim: shame on you," read the poster circulated by the Jewish settlers' movement, Gush Emunim. "The land of Israel is not for sale." Although Mr Baker's aides and his Israeli escorts will ensure that he never comes face to face with the campaign of demonstrations planned against his visit, he can take some satisfaction in the knowledge that protesters are being mobilised precisely because he is nearer than ever to bringing the various parties in the Middle East conflict together for talks.

While Israeli, Palestinian

## Baker edges closer to diplomatic victory in face of Jewish expansion



Foundations of faith: Arab construction workers praying on a building site extending a Jewish settlement at Efrat in the occupied West Bank

and Syrian officials appeared this week to be hardening their positions during Mr Baker's eighth round of shuttle diplomacy in the region, the consensus privately is that every side is bolstering its negotiating position ahead of what is now regarded as an inevitable peace conference in less than two weeks.

Aside from any unforeseen

problems, which in the Middle East have an alarming habit of revealing themselves just in time to sabotage peace efforts, Mr Baker looks as if he is on the verge of a diplomatic victory, the likes of which have eluded just about every American secretary of state since William Rogers began his doomed initiative in 1970.

Although Mr Baker can

justifiably take great pride in his achievement, the result of tireless diplomacy which made galvanising the multinational anti-Iraq alliance last year look easy, his tactics in forcing largely unenthusiastic parties to the negotiating table could still backfire.

Aside from the obvious difficulties in brokering an acceptable arrangement be-

tween implacable foes, Mr Baker's other problem is that the tactic he has used to bring the parties together has left him with no idea of where the talks will lead. Unlike his predecessors who actively touted detailed peace plans, Mr Baker has no formal strategy on paper.

"After the opening session we have no idea what will

happen and I don't think anyone else does either," said one bemused Israeli diplomat.

American officials said they are hopeful that the conference in itself will serve as the key to peace and that public expectations will rise so quickly among Israelis and Arabs alike that their obstinate leaders will have no choice but to make peace.

## Bosnia sovereignty move heightens fear of collapse

FROM TIM JUDAH IN SARAJEVO AND ANNE McELVOY IN ZAGREB

THE central Yugoslav republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina yesterday took its first step towards independence from the disintegrating federation. The parliament in Sarajevo voted after a heated session lasting well into the small hours of yesterday to declare the republic as sovereign, increasing fears of an all-out civil war.

The Serbian speaker had attempted to close the session but, when Serb deputies walked out of the chamber, the Croats and Muslims took the debate to a vote. Alija Izetbegovic, Bosnia's Muslim president, was greeted by loud cheers as he told the parliament: "There is no place for us in Yugoslavia."

The Croats and Muslims approved a document calling for increased autonomy with-

in a loose federation. Serb delegates claimed that the vote was a manoeuvre paving the way for secession. While falling short of a declaration of independence, the document is an attempt to accentuate the republic's sovereignty and a clear signal by Croats and Muslims that they will not stand for any attempts by Serbs or Serbia to dismember the territory.

The move widens the rift in the ethnically mixed republic between ethnic Serbs and the alliance of interests forged between Croats and Muslims. It also increases the likelihood that Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina will seek annexation to become part of a "greater Serbia". The republic's Serb leaders have already said that they will not accept the status of an ethnic minority within an independent republic.

An attempt by Serbs here to join a greater Serbia is likely to result in fighting spreading from Croatia to Bosnia, since the Serbs, who make up 32 per cent of Bosnia's population, are dispersed throughout the republic and their territorial claims are more contentious than those which have led to the hostilities in Croatia. The

Muslims, who form the largest share of the republic's population with 44 per cent (Croats make up 19 per cent), fear that they could be left as a vulnerable buffer state if Serbia and Croatia claim areas of territory.

Bosnian Serbs have already declared four so-called Serbian autonomous provinces, making up a third of the republic, and in some Croat areas people have set up tank traps and sandbag gun emplacements. "I am afraid the war may spread here," Harris Silajdzic, the republic's foreign minister, said yesterday. "We are trying everything we can to avoid violent conflict. But, with central government in Bosnia beginning to collapse, the prospects for peace look bleak."

Asked whether the vote by parliament in Sarajevo set the republic on a course for full independence, Mr Silajdzic said: "We are now bringing Bosnia-Herzegovina into line with the other republics. We want to be connected to Serbia and Croatia, at an equal distance, but if that is not possible then we shall seek another solution."

Jasna Siles, a co-ordinator of the peace movement which has sprung up in Sarajevo, said yesterday that the decision to declare sovereignty would probably hasten the violent collapse of the republic. "We are very fearful of what is coming to us because our communities are all mixed in together. The dividing lines are unclear. Bosnia is a bloodbath waiting to happen."

In one of the few optimistic signs that discourse at least was still continuing in Yugoslavia, Sarajevo was visited yesterday by General Veljko Kadijevic, the federal defence minister. Cyrus Vance, the United Nations special envoy, was also expected.

would not intervene to decide disputes within individual republics. He drew a distinction between the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, in which President Gorbachev is trying to mediate, and the conflict between two armed political groups in Georgia in which Moscow has taken no action.

## Gorbachev meets Yugoslav rivals

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Gorbachev yesterday met separately the leaders of the warring Yugoslav republics of Serbia and Croatia in one of the more improbable international peacemaking efforts to be initiated in recent months.

Slobodan Milosevic and Franjo Tudjman had arrived in Moscow by separate planes in response to an invitation issued two weeks ago. After his talks, Mr Milosevic said the conversation was "frank and constructive" and there had been full agreement on the need for a peaceful solution.

Andrei Grachev, Mr Gorbachev's spokesman, accepted that the number of unsolved Soviet ethnic conflicts and the state of the country might not suggest President Gorbachev as a mediator for Yugoslavia, but these did help him to understand the conflict. He rejected the idea that a Soviet model might be offered. "We have long stopped offering the Soviet experience as a model for others," he said wily. Although he commended the European Community's peace effort, he hinted that Moscow might have been displeased to be left on the sidelines. "We feel that the Soviet factor has recently not been as fully used as it might have been."

Mr Grachev confirmed that Moscow had changed its approach to Soviet conflicts and



Coase: still to learn that he is £580,000 richer

## Briton is Nobel winner

FROM AP STOCKHOLM

BRITON Ronald Coase was awarded the Nobel prize in economics yesterday for his pioneering work on how property rights and transaction costs affect the economy. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said his theories were among "the most dynamic forces behind research in economic science and jurisprudence today".

Professor Coase, aged 81, was born in Middlesex and is a professor emeritus at the law school of Chicago university. He is on holiday in southern France and by last night had not yet been told that he was the winner of the £580,000 prize, Carl-Olof Jacobson, the academy's secretary-general, said. "The world knows before him," he added.

Professor Coase began to develop his theories in the 1930s of how contract terms, laws, transaction costs and property rights determine the success of an economic enterprise. Until recently, the academy said, many of his concepts were accepted as axiomatic and not studied.

## Socialist mayor deals fresh blow to Cresson

FROM REUTERS IN CLERMONT-FERRAND

EDITH Cresson, the French prime minister, her public approval rating down to barely 30 per cent, suffered another blow yesterday when a mayor resigned, accusing her Socialist government of ignoring what he called the slow death of his city.

Roger Quilliot, himself a Socialist, resigned as mayor of Clermont-Ferrand, saying he had waited for four months to see Mme Cresson about the economic plight of his region. "I am rebelling against the

idea of being the mayor of a city condemned to a slow death by the indifference of the public authorities," he said at a council meeting.

M. Quilliot, mayor for 18 years, later told France Infos radio: "The technocrats in Paris continue to underestimate the problems so it required some sort of electric shock to convince them I wasn't joking." His tactic worked: Mme Cresson yesterday agreed to meet him next week.

## Tamil loses leg in rail 'race attack'

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

WITH attacks on foreigners becoming so common that most incidents now go unreported, a Tamil refugee in Saarbrücken has told police a story which has shocked Germany. Senkharan Rathakumaran, aged 26, who came to the country last year to escape the civil war in Sri Lanka, said after an emergency operation last Friday that skinheads had laid him across a railway track where a train ran over his right leg below the knee.

He told officers he had been waiting for a bus in central Saarbrücken that evening when three skinheads arrived and hustled him into a car. He said they dragged him, possibly with chloroform, and then laid him unconscious on the main line. He claimed he regained consciousness in agony as a train ran over his leg and then crawled to a nearby street and collapsed.

The driver of the 17.45 express from Mannheim has confirmed seeing the body on the tracks as he slowed to stop at Saarbrücken. The train was travelling at more than 80mph, and he could not halt for more than a mile.

There have been no arrests and police say they have failed to verify the story. A spokesman said yesterday that although the abduction was supposed to have taken place during the rush hour in the city centre, no witnesses had been found. The victim, police added, showed no signs of being hurt in a struggle before he lost part of his leg.

One police theory is that he might have deliberately lain on the tracks and invented the rest of the story to ensure he was not deported from Germany. This seems unlikely, given that refugees from Sri Lanka are automatically allowed to stay because of the civil war there, even if their request for asylum is rejected. A Ghanaian died in a racist arson attack in the Saarland last month.

## Insect-loving monk curses meat and drink as India's ruin

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

FOR nearly 40 years, Jain Ramesh Kumar, a Jain saint, has walked the byways of India, his mouth masked to avoid injuring insects. Before taking a step he sweeps the ground with a cotton broom. "Even if my feet are bleeding I will not wear shoes in case I tread on an insect," he says. "Insects can survive a soft foot."

He is sitting cross-legged on a charpoy at a cool and astonishingly silent temple in Chandni Chowk, a rowdy shopping street in the predominantly Muslim old city of Delhi. He has a writing pad on his lap and is mapping out another book. He has just published his 50th religious volume, a lengthy appreciation of his late guru, who would now be 100 years old.

As part of the centenary celebrations, Jains marched through Chandni Chowk on Sunday and launched yet more charity programmes, including a dona-

tion of 200 artificial legs. Jain doctors in Delhi carried out 200 eye operations in a single day free of charge. Most Jains are wealthy businessmen or successful professionals. "This is because they live simply and do not drink, smoke or eat meat," says the priest.

Some of the Jain monks who marched down Chandni Chowk were naked. They belong to a sect that takes the vow of poverty literally, after initiation into the priesthood they cast off their clothes for good. Nobody finds this offensive, because they are holy.

The elderly monk is a figure of great eminence in India's small Jain community. He walks constantly throughout India, living in poverty and begging one frugal vegetarian meal a day from villagers. Only during the four-month monsoon season does he stay in one place. "When the ground is wet you cannot see if you are about to tread on

an insect. During the rains we must not travel more than 5km (three miles) from the temple. This lessens the danger of harming something," he says.

His voice is muffled behind the stiffly starched cloth mask, which he wears day and night. His wispy grey hair is chaotic; because of his vow of poverty he pulls it out by hand rather than spend money on scissors. Using finger and thumb he plucks out whiskers from his face. Razors, too, are banned.

He says poverty is one of the cornerstones of his faith. "The problems of India's poor can be summed up in a few words - alcohol and meat. The consumption of both is increasing. Ours is a beautiful land but over the years I have seen the character of its people change. They have lost their self-respect because of drinking and meat-eating. An atmosphere of tension and violence is building up."



Mask of time: Jain Ramesh Kumar has covered his mouth for 40 years to prevent hurting even a fly







## MEDIA WATCH

## ITV bets close

NO MONEY will change hands in Britain's betting shops this morning on the result of the Channel 3 licence, auction, as ITV executives and their rivals huddle around fax machines to wait the good, or bad, news. Bookmakers have refused to take a gamble on the result of the auction, saying it was too risky given the gossipy nature of the broadcasting industry. "Someone would know more about it than we do," says Malcolm Palmer of Coral. "If Thames, TVS, TV-am and TSW lose out, we'll know we did the right thing by not taking any bets." Ladbroke's dabbling in the ITV franchise market came to a halt on June 4, when Thames, TV-am and TVS were odds-on favourites to retain their franchises. "We had planned to reopen several days ago, but too much information has leaked out. But if we were to open our books again, our odds would be slightly different," says Rob Hartnett of Ladbroke. Despite confident proclamations from Thames, TV-am, TSW and TVS, industry speculation continued last night that the "four Ts" will lose out.

## Boost for quality nationals

ONLY three of the 21 national newspapers, all of them Sundays, showed year-on-year sales increases in September, the month when sales traditionally lift off after the summer holidays, according to the Audit Bureau of Circulation. They were *The Independent on Sunday* (up 9.9 per cent to 386,000), the *Observer* (up 2.5 per cent to 560,300) and the *Sunday Mirror* (up 0.15 per cent to 2.89 million). After a year of recession, the good news was that sales of 14 papers were up appreciably on August, particularly on Sundays where the *Sunday Mirror* was up by 136,000, the *News of the World* by 99,500, and *The Mail on Sunday* by 56,700. Overall, Sunday sales were up by 400,000 over August, although they were still 753,000 behind sales last year, compared with a rise of 50,000 for the dailies, 830,000 down on last year.

September sales were heartening for the quality papers. Only *The Daily Telegraph* and *The Sunday Telegraph* showed small decreases and sales of *The Sunday Times*, after launching its "Makers of the Twentieth Century" partwork, rose by 66,000 over August.

## Praise indeed

SIR David Nicholas, the doyen of British television news, retires this Friday as ITN chairman. Britain's broadcasting establishment were joined by cabinet ministers in paying tribute to Sir David at a party thrown in his honour at the Savoy on Monday night. Even Mrs Thatcher joined John Major and Neil Kinnock in a special ITN video to praise Sir David's achievements in his 31 years at ITN. "We would like to thank and congratulate David Nicholas for his enormous contribution. It has been done without a penny piece of taxpayers' money," she said.



Sir David: bowing out for his enormous contribution. It has been done without a penny piece of taxpayers' money," she said.

## Viewers' chance to bite back

DISGRUNTLED television viewers are being sought to put BBC executives and programme-makers in the "hot seat" each month on *Biteback*, BBC1's new monthly right-of-reply programme presented by Julian Pettifer. *Biteback* is looking for complaints ranging from the serious to the lighthearted to put the BBC "on the spot" when it starts broadcasting next month. Those who want their complaints heard should write to *Biteback*, PO Box 2085, London W12 8XR.

MELINDA WITTSTOCK

The BBC has been accused of unfair reporting in its coverage of the party conferences. Tony Hall answers back

## BBC bias? Not on your telly

THE BBC's political coverage is sensitive at the best of times. But for the two main parties, this is not the best of times. For the next nine months one or other of them is going to lose an election. So our coverage across both radio and television is being subjected to the closest scrutiny and the readiest criticism. And since we do a lot more of it than anybody else, we must expect to get more than our share of the parties' attention. Over the past week, pre-election nerves and the enthusiasms of a largely pro-Conservative press have combined to produce a stream of anti-BBC rhetoric.

It is vital for the BBC to stand up for its fundamental principles: accuracy, impartiality, integrity, fairness. The BBC's conference coverage combined all these, and we must not be deflected from them by political pressure.

The job of the parties at conference time is clear: to set out their stalls to their respective supporters and hope that the country likes the merchandise, too. Along, the BBC offers viewers across the country sustained live coverage of these events, giving each party in turn an unrivalled opportunity to address the electorate in detail and at length.

As well as offering hours of live coverage, we also have an obligation to select and report the day's news in our scheduled bulletins. The political news of the day will vary. Sometimes it will reflect simply what happened in the conference hall. Sometimes it will occur on the conference fringe. Sometimes it will arise from the effects that conference announcements have elsewhere in the country. The fact is that what the party in government has to say at its conference is more apt to have an immediate impact on the country than any policy promise of a party in opposition. That is one of the attributes of being in government.

Thus with Malcolm Rifkind's speech last week on a route for the Channel link. The story was not the speech: the story was the decision itself and the reaction to it in east London, south London, Kent, and among the interested parties such as Eurotunnel, British Rail and the CBI. So our coverage reflected all of these ingredients.

The health service story was more complex. It did not begin suddenly last Thursday when William Waldegrave got to his feet in Blackpool.

A frisson passes through the newsroom as the BBC comes under pre-election attack. We search through our scripts, assess how fair we have been, and find that overall we have been very fair indeed. Wise heads such as John Cole and John Simpson, who have lived through this before, steady the wave of unease. If we are confident of our ground, we must not be swept off our feet by whatever political party or politically motivated newspaper wants to take a pot shot at us.

Every morning at the editors' 9am meeting we analyse yesterday's output, often down to the last phrase or word: how good, how fair, how clear, was the reporting? Did we get the running order right? Few newsrooms are so thoroughly self-critical. Of course there are



where in the country. The fact is that what the party in government has to say at its conference is more apt to have an immediate impact on the country than any policy promise of a party in opposition. That is one of the attributes of being in government.

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Every morning at the editors' 9am meeting we analyse yesterday's output, often down to the last phrase or word: how good, how fair, how clear, was the reporting? Did we get the running order right? Few newsrooms are so thoroughly self-critical. Of course there are mistakes. How could there not be with such a massive output, and instant decisions to be made on late breaking news. In the newsroom there is indignation at anti-BBC stories in the newspapers over the past few days that are outrageously inaccurate, and would have been so easy to check. There have been several plain libels — people quoted saying extraordinary things at parties they were not at, we accused of covering a story I did not. Of course we should be criticised, and even mocked — why not? But we take it badly when our standards of accuracy and fairness are challenged by several newspapers that have so much less regard for the truth.

POLLY TOYNBEE

● The author is the head of the social affairs unit, BBC TV news.

night. Full, fair, enquiring coverage. The range and breadth of our conference coverage should be noted, even though that, too, gets us into trouble with the press. Along with mists and the mellow fruitfulness, autumn brings the odd report about BBC profligacy at conferences.

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Polls say that the NHS has been high up the electorate's list of concerns for many months. Votes are at stake here.

No doubt this accounted for Mr Waldegrave's readiness to appear on the *World at One* on the day of Labour's health debate in Brighton. It accounts, too, for the assiduous care with which the *Nine O'Clock News* on that occasion reported not just Labour's debate but also the contrary views of supporters of the NHS trust. And it unquestionably accounts for the prime minister's decision to launch an attack on Labour over health on the first day of the Conservative conference — the political headline that night in the *Nine O'Clock News*.

Because of a leak, even the main news Mr Waldegrave had for his audience at Blackpool — an enquiry into hospital provision in London — had been reported, reacted to, and interpreted long before he announced it. The story that night was not confined to the *Empress* Ballroom; it was widely discussed around the nation. None the less, the *Nine O'Clock News* covered Mr Waldegrave's speech at length. And we also rightly gave space to the contrary arguments. The night ended with Mr Waldegrave facing both supporters and critics on *News*.

## THE CONSERVATIVE COMPLAINT

As the most influential medium, television is understandably of more than passing interest to politicians, particularly at election time.

The Conservative party's relations with the BBC reached a low point in the early 1980s, following a succession of appalling misjudgments about its coverage of the Falklands conflict. Kate Adie's reports from Libya, and *Panorama's* "Maggie's Militant Tendency". Since the departure of Alasdair Milne and the appointment of Michael Checkland and John Birt things have improved. John Cole and John Sergeant deserve praise for their professionalism.

However, concern persists in Tory ranks, homing in on two programmes: *Radio 4's Today* and BBC TV's *Nine O'Clock News*. Today interviewed the trade

buy pictures from us. If they could do it cheaper or better, they would.

Perhaps the fact that we provide so much coverage leads some of our critics to believe we provide all of it. That might explain why we now appear to be blamed even for the actions of others. A senior Labour man is said to have praised our reporting of Neil Kinnock's conference speech as "a party political broadcast for Labour". In fact, he was referring to a news bulletin from one of our competitors: fairly or not, others must judge. It is reported that we dispatched four camera crews to record Edward Heath's Macmillan Lecture. In fact we sent one and shared the material with Sky.

Which is not to say that we do not make mistakes. We do. Given the sheer volume of our output it would be extraordinary if we did not. Political correspondents and programme producers make hundreds of editorial decisions a day under pressure. Some decisions are bound to cause public comment. But on those rare occasions when we make mistakes, we admit them. Two weeks ago at Brighton we were slow in picking up a story that Downing Street contrived to leak to selected newspapers. I regret that. But every BBC journalist aspires to those principles of accuracy, impartiality, integrity and fairness. These are articles of faith for all BBC journalists on air and off. They will not be deflected from them in what are likely to be difficult months ahead.

● The author is the BBC's director of news and current affairs.

secretary, Peter Lilley, about alleged UK exports to Iraq of products used in making nuclear weapons. He denied emphatically that was so, but they cut out his denial. In the *Nine O'Clock News* coverage of the party conferences, Labour was given a largely uncritical run on its uncosted and vague health proposals. By contrast, William Waldegrave's spirited defence of the Conservative record was "balanced" by a one-sided analysis purporting to be objective. No one is perfect. Nevertheless, in the run-up to the general election the onus on the BBC — and others — is to be fair.

GERALD HOWARTH  
● The author is the Conservative MP for Cannock and Burntwood. In 1986 he won out of court damages from the BBC over allegations made in "Maggie's Militant Tendency".

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## BBC RADIO 3

## Controller, Radio 3

Applications are invited for the post of Controller, Radio 3, which becomes vacant when John Drummond relinquishes the post in May 1992. Controller, Radio 3 is responsible to the Managing Director, Network Radio for the overall editorial policy of the network, including maintaining the balance between speech and music output, for advising the Board on the BBC's music policy and is accountable for the commissioning of new works, for the appointment of conductors to the BBC's Orchestras and for the objectives, staffing and resources of the Radio 3 Music department.

Applicants will need extensive artistic and managerial experience combined with a proven track record at a senior level in broadcasting or similar cultural enterprises and possess the qualities of leadership and persuasion required to maintain the position and development of the network in the changing broadcasting climate.

Remuneration package will be negotiable for this appointment, which will be made on a contract basis.

If you wish to be considered, please write with a c.v., together with a statement of how you would develop speech and serious music on Radio 3, to Chris Storey, Chief Personnel Officer Radio, BBC, Broadcasting House, London W1A 1AA, to arrive no later than November 8th.

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## AND BRIEFLY

## Ghost of a chance

THERE is still the ghost of a chance to win a chance of sleeping with a ghost at Castle Stuart, Inverness. Charles Stuart, who leases the castle from his distant relative Douglas Stuart, the Earl of Moray, decided that raffling off a night in the haunted turret bedroom would raise money for charity and lay the ghosts of a room that has not been slept in for 300 years. Speculation has it that the bedroom may be haunted by the Marquis of Montrose, who was hung, drawn and quartered in 1632. Tickets cost £1 each, and all proceeds go to the Cancer Research Campaign. The draw will be made on October 31. Details from Castle Stuart, Petty Parish, Inverness IV1 2JH (0463 790745, fax 0463 792604).

## A step ahead

WHEN Delia Smith recommended rose water in a recipe, chemists all over Britain ran out. And when she used a clever little lattice pastry cutter on her BBC television series *Delia Smith's Christmas* last year, the supplier, Divertimenti, was deluged with requests for the gadget. The series is to be repeated next month so Divertimenti, at 139/141 Fulham Road, London SW3 (071-581 8063) or 45/47 Wigmore Street, London W1 (071-935 0689), has laid in stocks of the lattice cutter, at £9.95, as well as the sought-after metal ramekins, at 76p each, that Delia Smith used to make mince-meat soufflés.

## Baby sham?

DO NOT waste your money buying herbal drinks for your baby, advises the Food Commission in the new issue of *The Food Magazine*, out yesterday. Babies are no more likely to be soothed by them than by a drink of plain water, says Tim Lobstein, who investigated the drinks. "Manufacturers admitted to the Food Commission that the herb extracts are for flavour and colour, not for any pharmacological effect. But they are selling the flavoured water if it were a health drink..." he says.

VICTORIA MCKEE

## The Children Act gives grandparents new rights — do they always deserve them? Liz Gill reports

## Oh grannie, what big teeth you've got

On the day that the Children Act came into force *Coronation Street* offered a dramatic twist in a storyline that is providing a timely illustration of one of the new law's main concerns: the rights and the role of grandparents. The clash centres on Ivy Brennan and her former daughter-in-law Gail, newly remarried. Ivy, determined to keep her dead son's memory alive in Nicky, her grandson, has stipulated in her will that he will inherit only if he retains his father's surname. Gail, however, is equally determined to build a new life for her children with Martin, her second husband. On Monday Martin, enraged by

needed stability. Others, of course, are meddling busybodies. Thelma Fisher, the conciliation director for the National Family Conciliation Council, the co-ordinating body for the 55 out-of-court conciliation services in this country, has known both types. She recalls a complicated case involving two parents, four children, two new partners and two sets of grandparents. Throughout the comings and goings and rearrangements of the following years these grandparents were the linchpin of the family. "When things went wrong their homes were safe havens. They were remarkable in that although they were committed to the grandchildren they did

*'As a grandparent you need to have your own life, rather than trying to get everything from others'*

Will matters be resolved amicably or will Ivy have to go to court, using the Act to lodge an application for contact with what she calls "her own flesh and blood"? Until this week, grandparents in real life could go to court only if divorce proceedings between the parents had started or if they were prepared to launch wardship claims. One of the first to lodge an application under the Act seeking regular contact with their grandson, aged six, may be a grandmother and grandfather in Avon. David Burrows, their solicitor, said that the child's parents were separated and "being difficult about it". Under the new Act, the court is obliged to ask the child what he wants.

By giving grandparents a bigger say — they now can even apply for a residence order so the child can live with them — the Act acknowledges the importance of "significant others" in a child's life and attempts to avoid the complete separation of first and third generations.

Ideal grandmothers and grandfathers have time, patience and wisdom and can provide much

down was, whereas the parents had got past that stage."

Most disputes between the generations never reach court, but can still cause enormous distress. Many psychiatrists believe that difficulties in a marriage often stem from unresolved issues in the families of origin.

Dr Stuart Lieberman, a consultant psychiatrist at St George's Hospital, London, and an expert in trans generational family therapy, explains how problems are passed on. "It is about the style in which families deal with emotions, sexuality, loss. If you had a parent who treated you aggressively and strictly you may be lax with your children. They then grow up with definite ideas of what they do and do not want. You have created the image of your mother."

Families at war: Lynne Perrie as Ivy Brennan and Helen Worth, right, as Gail Platt, are fighting over Gail's son in *Coronation Street*

Dr Lieberman, who runs the family therapy clinic at the hospital, tries to see all three generations, even four when available.

"In marriage you marry not only each other but each other's history and family," he says, hence the importance of grandparents who can be either a benign or a malevolent influence, particularly if they fan the flames in areas of potential conflict like class, race or religion. "In these cases an intense divided loyalty develops, the grandparent plays on it and the grandchildren are caught up in it. If a mother is trying to bring up the children fairly strictly, for example, and they start saying 'granny lets us do this or that' she feels her efforts are being sabotaged. I've seen families where the wife will not visit her in-laws, so the husband visits once a week at Sunday lunch. The grandparents should be saying, 'It is important to be with your wife', but they cannot let him go."

When conflicts end in a ban it may be out of a sense of revenge or bitterness or a conviction that the grandparents are a bad influence.

"I think it is much more complicated than the Children Act has portrayed it. It may be wrong to assume that access to both sides of the family is always good. If they are warring, children can become tokens to be played between one side and another."

Where grandparental love is unselfish, it can play a vital role, he says. "It's good for a child to see things can be done differently. There are times when we feel closer to our grandparents than our parents."

Robin Skinner, the psychiatrist and author of *Families And How To Survive Them*, believes grandparents cause the most trouble when they want to extend possessiveness into a third generation. "Loving works best when there is

the sense of it being available if needed rather than imposed. As a grandparent you need to have your own life, rather than trying to get everything from others."

Where children do lose touch with their grandparents the loss on both sides can be immeasurable, says Jo Tunstall, the director of the Family Rights Group for children looked after by local authorities and those placed for adoption. "Such grandparents are devastated. They can spend their lives hoping to bump into their grandchildren. A child loses part of its past and may spend years trying to find it again. The need for a sense of identity gets even stronger as you grow up."

The situation is often more extreme for children in care or placed for adoption (though even here the new law should provide more room for manoeuvre), but the question of grandparents remains wide-spread in ordinary matrimonial proceedings.

Dr Christine Piper and Felicity Kaganas, law lecturers at Birkbeck University, estimated in a recent research project that out of 25,500 cases a year involving children, at least 4,000 involved disputes over grandparents, too. Dr Piper says the difficulty is not where parents cannot agree — in those cases the grandparents themselves are consulted — but where the couple has agreed not to bother with visits to grandparents. Then, she says, the emphasis on the "parental unit" leaves no one to speak for the grandparent.

This is where contact orders, which can mean communication other than visits, may prove useful. "Of course letters and presents and phone calls are a poor substitute for seeing your grandchild, but anything is better than cutting the links completely. What is important is to keep lines of communication open so that one day the child will be old enough to go and visit."

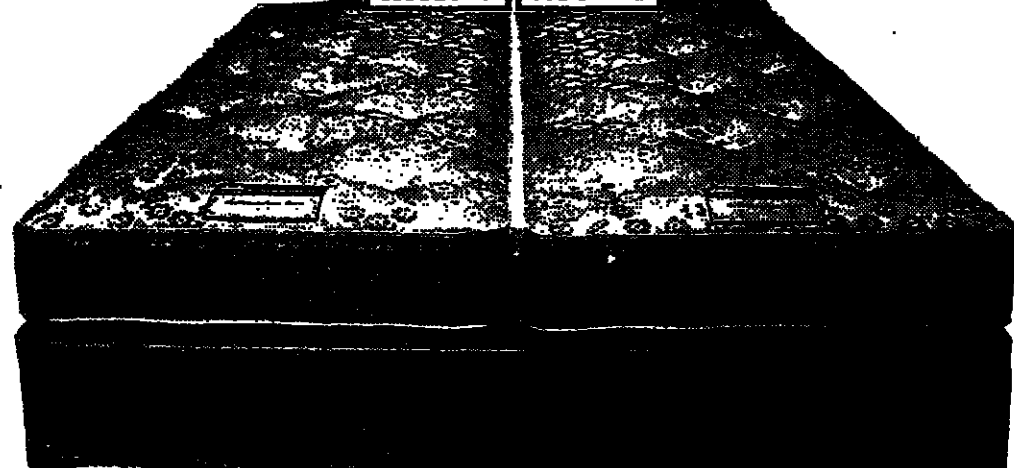
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ORTHOPAEDIC & MEDIBEDS

## Too tight, too short, too true

One great step for womankind: a book that ridicules ridiculous fashions

Alison Everitt was invited to review the London Design Show by *The Clothes Show* and was not, as you will see on Sunday, a great hit. "Jeff Banks (the presenter) asked me if there was anything I would wear, on display. Honestly, I had to say no. I can see why people buy Vivienne Westwood's clothes and put them on the wall as art. They're certainly not for human bodies. And as for John Richmond's stuff... he says they are for Strong Personalities. I'd say they were for people with no mirrors in their house."

Ms Everitt has put her views on fashion into a comic book dedicated to anyone who has "tried squeezing size 14 hips into size 12 trousers... and to those to whom fashion always has and always will be just a blur..." She was inspired to do so by the fact she was heading for a size 14 and that "if I got any larger, I would be doomed to wearing floor-length clothes. It's clear that fashion designers only exist for women of an ideal shape."

*That's Fashion!*, the launch of which is a deliberate poke at the annual clothing love-in generated by the London Design Show and the Paris collections, takes a cynical look at the industry. The chapters in her book follow the pitfalls of fashionable dressing with which many women will grimly associate. The nightmare of the wrap-over top (how to put it on? how to take it off?), the vast maternity dress with scarf-neck (so you can hang yourself when you catch a glimpse in the mirror). There are also tips on underwear and hosiery (for instance, from a distance, patterned tights look like varicose veins).

Ms Everitt, who grew up in Kettering — "with one Dorothy Perkins and where everyone my age ended up looking like their mother..." — hopes her book will supply

a much-needed retort to designers whom she feels dictate what we wear without taking our shapes, or needs, into consideration. Mini-crisis, conical bras, all those trends secretly dreaded by most people are given remorseless treatment by this woman, who says everyone should have a PMT outfit for "those days when you look six months pregnant".

"It annoys me so much to be told what to wear. Tartan, for example. Who said that was back? Someone with a major percentage in the tartan industry, I bet. And for God's sake not bondage again." Ms Everitt, blonde and Lycra-clad, admits she has had her share of dire dressing. "At art school, you had to be a fashion victim. I wore tracksuit bottoms and tie-dye T-shirts."

Even *Elle*, that bible of finery, has come under Ms Everitt's beady eye. "The editor told me her magazine was aimed at 25-35 year old women. Why then does she have teenagers modelling their clothes?" Fellow culprits in "this poised rip-off," are the attendant media. "More magazines and TV programmes should show women what to wear. Many women have no idea how to dress well, and all that's in the magazines are things like how to make six outfits with three tube skirts and a tea-towel."

Fair game, but *That's Fashion!* does take the humble punter to task somewhat with its "Fashion Tips". Is this not fashion dictation? "Not at all. I think women need direction to look good. The fashion pages of newspapers never deal with normal looking women; they never give tips on how to hide big hips, for example. You can read my book as observational comedy, or you can get some good advice from it."

Tomorrow, in the svelte surroundings of Brown's Club, Covent Garden, *That's Fashion!* (published by Op-

tima) will be launched with an alternative fashion show. Ms Everitt has collected a group of her pupils from Vidal Sassoon (she teaches art to hairdressing students), and down the cat-walk will come living examples of her drawings: with false breasts, huge

padded shoulders, foam-filled cycling shorts and over-the-top taffeta. Her fashion predictions for next year? "The clothes will be too small, badly-made and over-priced. Believe me — it's true."

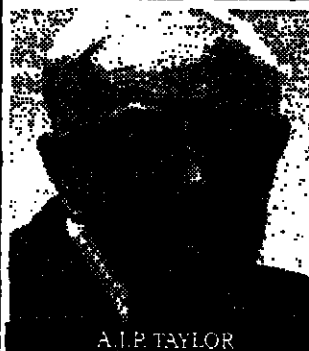
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## PARKINSON'S DISEASE CAN BE ANYBODY'S DISEASE

It's often assumed that tremors are the only symptom of Parkinson's Disease. If only they were. Speech difficulty; inability to swallow; a face lacking expression; slow and clumsy movement; feet and legs that refuse to move. They are all symptoms. There are over 100,000 sufferers in this country alone.

There is no known cure. Parkinson's Disease Society seeks to ease the burden and find the cure for Parkinson's Disease. We need your help. Please send a donation, a covenant or leave a legacy. You can even phone your donation by Access or Visa to 071-383 3513.

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# Underneath the arches, dreams come true

The new exhibition hall at Earls Court revives one of British architecture's most powerful forms — the great iron train shed roofs of 19th-century stations. "I looked carefully at St Pancras," says Kenneth Feakes, a partner of the architects RMJM, "and I travel into King's Cross every day."

Earls Court 2 is set apart from its Victorian predecessors by the breadth and shallowness of the arch. This is the top of a circle that, if drawn out, would continue hundreds of feet into the ground.

While St Pancras impresses by the strength and massiveness of its ironwork, Earls Court 2 has an airiness and grace that make apparent light work of the tensions and stresses it bears.

The form grew directly out of the brief. The clients wanted open floor space and a roof rising to 25 metres (80ft) in the middle, though it could descend to eight metres (25ft) at the sides. The Motorfair stands rising from the floor show why.

Modern exhibitors are constructing stands two or three storeys high, with the adventurous shapes and silhouettes of a spectacular fair. There is talk next winter of an artificial ski slope the length of the hall.

The building looks effortlessly simple and standardised. However, the extra 170,000 sq ft of space was won only by the daring and ingenious use of "air rights" over railway lines. British Rail and London Underground tracks run below it, the latter to a large, busy maintenance depot.

The whole building is supported on a forest of 1,113 piles, which rise out of the ground as 370 columns. As the railway tracks run

**The adventurous design of the new Earls Court centre allows exhibitors to stage spectacular displays, writes Marcus Binney**

across the site on a curve, these could not be placed on a rectilinear grid, but had to be positioned wherever space was available. Much of the work had to be done at night and weekends when the railway authorities could provide controlled access.

A concrete platform that forms the exhibition hall floor is supported by the columns. "It carries six times the standard office loading, strong enough for Chief tankers," says Geoff Taylor, who has managed the project for P&O Developments.

Large articulated lorries can drive in to deliver building materials and exhibits. Below the slab are two car parking levels. Above, the 17 trusses are supported and tied at the side by large steel X-frames. These lift the edges of the arched roof to provide a two-storey run of flexible space for offices and hospitality suites.

All the steel used in construction was British and brought in pre-fabricated units from Manchester to an airfield in Gloucestershire, where the trusses were assembled in line. Every truss consists of four sections and these were brought

one by one to London on lorries.

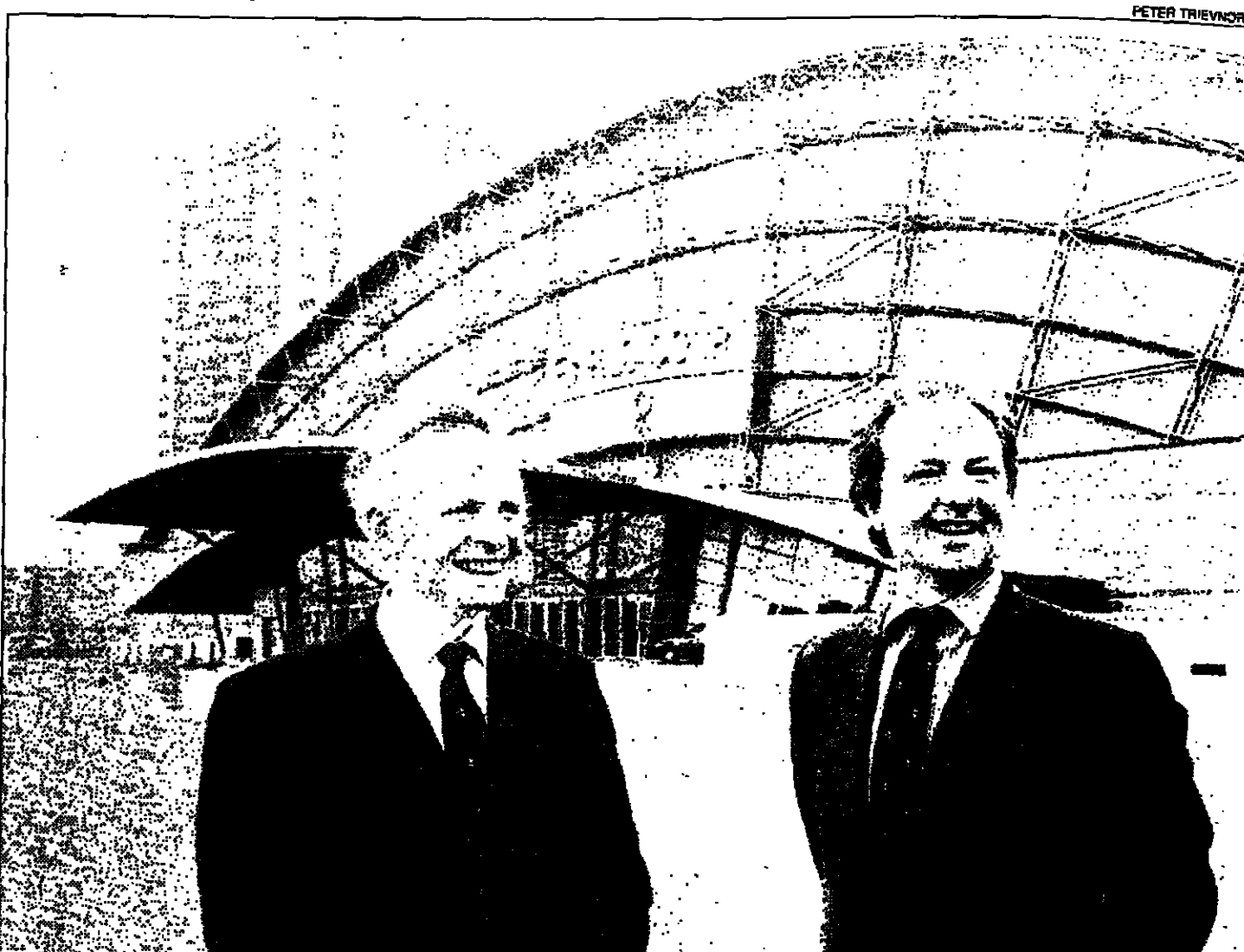
The full drama of these trusses is best appreciated from the top of the roof where, at the middle of the hall, two permanent walkways have been installed inside them. You look down 75ft through open girders, while above is a penthouse with galleries on both sides running the length of the hall. The sides are lined with automatic smoke louvers with wind sensors ensuring that they open only on the leeward side and that the smoke cannot be blown back inside.

Of the new entrance front, Mr Feakes says: "I noticed that the screens across the mouths of Victorian train sheds usually followed a rectilinear grid. Here I wanted the braces to follow the curvature of the roof." As a result, the upright members fan out like the spokes of a bicycle wheel. The shallow curve is emphasised by the entrance canopy, stepped out twice over the forecourt.

Arches and spokes give the front a dynamic tension. From this angle the building appears to be erupting from the ground. There is also a subtle matching with the next-door Empress State Building.

Bovis, which built the exhibition hall, is proud that it saved the client 25 per cent of building costs, in the design-manage-construct contract, completing the job ahead of schedule in 112 weeks.

Initial market research suggested the hall might be too big for some exhibitors, and a system of descending curtains was installed to divide it two-thirds of the way along. So far, however, every large organiser has said: "I'll take it all."



Outside: Peter Ford, left, and Hugh Scrimgeour, proud of their Earls Court 2 achievement, are now concentrating on the fine tuning

## Business that breeds prosperity

In its way, the Earls Court Olympia complex of exhibition halls is a great commercial feat. In most of the rest of Europe it is the pattern for governments or regional authorities to pour public money into developing exhibition facilities. They realise that exhibitions attract visitors, who then spend money in hotels and restaurants and on travelling and entertainment.

Even in the United States most exhibition halls are municipally supported. Not so with Earls Court Olympia, part of P&O, which has to pay its way.

In the last full year to the end of 1990 the operating profits of the services division of P&O, of which the exhibition halls are an important part, rose by 8 per cent to £117 million on an increased turnover of £1.3 billion. Earls Court Olympia was singled out as

**The £100 million hall is part of a complex that draws visitors and boosts the economy**

"performing well". The exhibition halls last year hosted more than 120 exhibitions, many of international standing, such as World Travel Market.

Last year the halls brought more than three million visitors to London. A study by the consultancy KPMG Peat Marwick estimated that this created about £450 million in extra revenue, particularly to the benefit of London hotels, restaurants, theatres and transport. The visitors also helped to support about 25,000 additional jobs.

The £100 million spent on creating Earls Court 2 is only part of P&O's recent investment in the exhibition business. Another £35 million has gone on refurbishing

existing halls and the creation of the Olympia conference centre. During the past decade £20 million has been spent on the glass-domed Olympia, home of indoor show-jumping and pop concerts.

Peter Ford, the chairman of Earls Court Olympia, who is also on the main P&O board, says: "There is always something you can improve. Having got Earls Court 2 on stream, our main preoccupation is to improve traffic access and management."

An underground link between the Seagrave Road car park and the main Earls Court halls is planned. Another project would improve road access from the

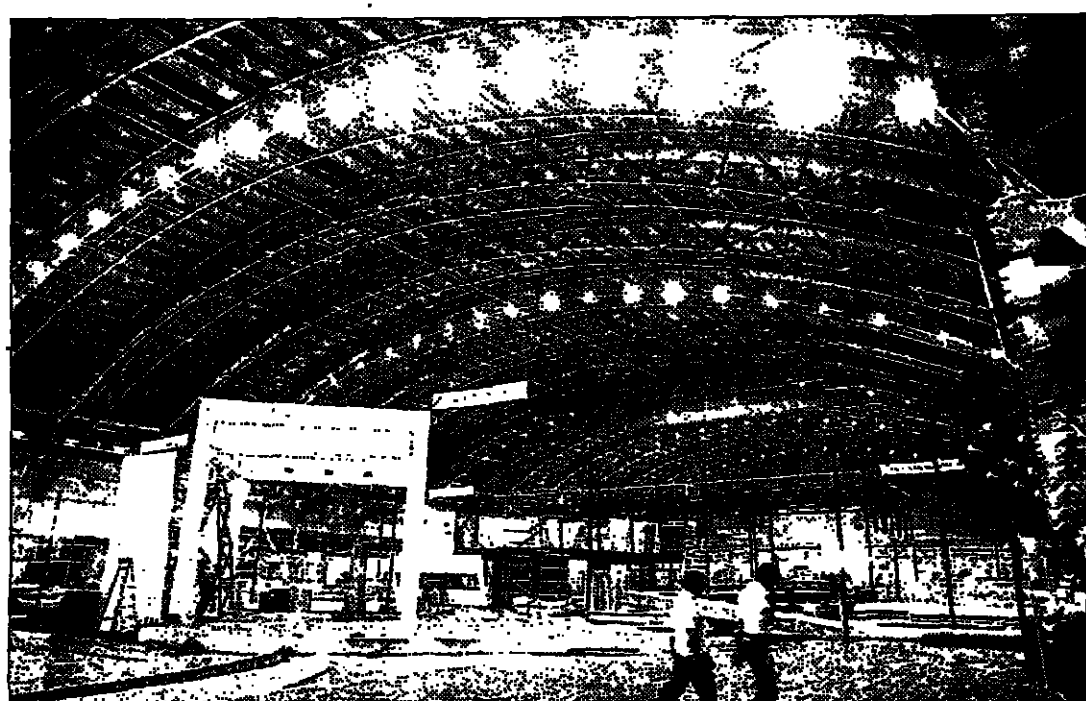
Cromwell Road area. Phased spending on the Olympia exhibition hall as great as that on Earls Court 2 is also a possibility.

The only exhibitions that Mr Ford considers out of reach for Earls Court Olympia are the huge machinery shows that tour the European circuits.

Olympia achieves greater frequency of occupancy with, typically, 200 days, than the bigger European centres, where 100 to 150 days are more usual. Hugh Scrimgeour, the managing director, says: "We have concentrated increasingly on quality of service rather than quantity of space."

Earls Court Olympia now accounts for almost two-thirds of London's exhibition hall capacity although there is competition notably from the Wembley exhibition centre.

DEREK HARRIS



Inside: the great arch frames the scene as workmen construct the displays for tomorrow's Motorfair

## Challenges are plain sailing

Earls Court has a specially constructed pit, usually hidden below the flooring, Derek Harris writes. Every year the pit is flooded to create the little ocean to host the Boat Show.

The water filling operation, which takes three days, is one example of the logistical problems that must be solved in staging an exhibition. Stands are put up, floor coverings laid, lighting installed and communications provided.

More than 500 exhibition contractors support the exhibition industry. A dozen or so companies specialise in security, an increasingly important aspect. Some groups, such as Melville and Gitspur,

cover a wide range of contracting services, but most smaller companies specialise.

The big halls, such as Earls Court Olympia and the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham, have subsidiaries that organise exhibitions and carry out contract work in staging them. Philbeach Events is, like Earls Court Olympia, part of the P&O Group, and organises big events on home ground, including this week's Motorfair, but it also operates at other leading venues.

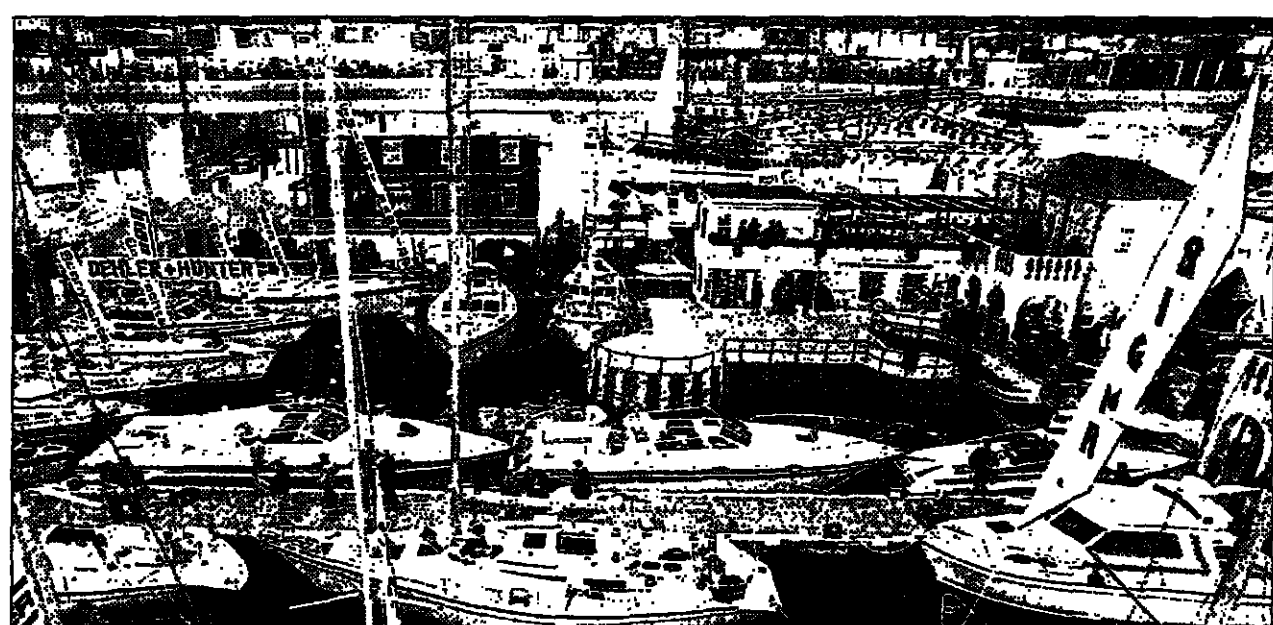
Philbeach Events has a joint venture in Japan, organising a European pavilion at next year's Osaka International Trade Fair. Earls Court Olympia

has its own caterer, Beeton Rumford, and Ecando Systems, a stand-fitting company. Three sides to the industry have their own trade associations. The contractors are grouped under the British Exhibition Contractors Association. The owners belong to the National Association of Exhibition Hall Owners, while the organisers come together with the Association of Exhibition Organisers.

Show organisers have usually emerged from media group parents, the main exceptions being those allied to the halls, the powerful Andry Montgomery and the Blenheim Group, which has the biggest international presence among British operators.

Media-backed organisers include ID International, Trenton and Steadman, all of them part of the Maxwell Group. ID concentrates on interior design, Trenton on heating and ventilating, and Steadman on electronics.

Reed Exhibitions is part of the Reed Group and its shows include the World Travel Market and Hotelympia. Angex, part of Associated Newspapers Group, is best known for organising the Ideal Home exhibition. Emap, the regional newspaper and magazine publisher, has exhibition servicing interests, and is strong in gift fairs and other sectors, from refrigeration to fleet cars.



The Boat Show: how Earls Court can provide a marina complete with water for the most spectacular of exhibitions

**Congratulations on the opening of Earls Court 2 from the Design Team**



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## Why Britain should spend more on shows

Leading exhibition organisers, armed with new research, are hoping to attract more promotional money from British companies, Derek Harris writes.

Exhibition spending as a proportion of total promotional expenditure is around 25 per cent in Germany and almost 15 per cent in the United States and France. In Britain, less than 10 per cent goes on exhibitions.

Phil Soar is the chief executive of Blenheim Group, which specialises in organising exhibitions. Almost one-fifth of its exhibition work is in Britain, and the rest mostly in France, the US, Germany and Japan.

He feels that his industry should be encouraging companies to spend more of their promotional budgets on exhibitions, since every additional 1 per cent of exhibition business would represent close to £15 million sales.

"If exhibitions are to play a similar role to those in the United States and the rest of Europe, much more space would be needed. This means an element of funding from the government or regions," Mr Soar says.



David Fasken: "One roof"

"In the past we have lacked convincing evidence about the effectiveness of exhibitions. They show off leading products in an industry with the key suppliers lined up. It is the chance for customers to compare prices. Technology experts can explain whatever is needed. Everything is done face-to-face."

David Fasken, deputy chairman of Earls Court Olympia, says: "The great joy of exhibitions is that everything happens under one roof. This is why the buyers enjoy them."

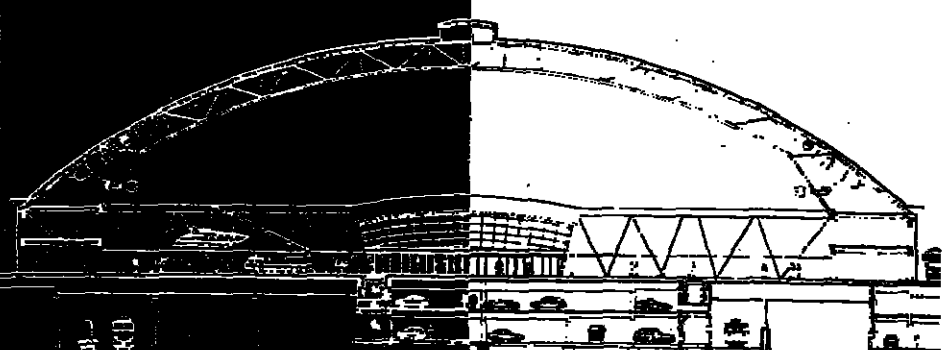
To try to emphasise these messages, a group of leading organisers linked up as the Exhibition Marketing Group. This comprises Andy Montgomery, Blenheim Group, the Birmingham NEC's Centre Exhibitions, Earls Court Olympia (Philbeach Events), Reed Exhibition Companies, part of Reed International, and EMAP Exhibitions Group.

One survey discovered that visitors rated exhibitions as fulfilling their objectives better than other media, including the trade press, sales representatives and direct mail. Exhibitors rated trade exhibitions alongside the trade press and to a lesser extent representatives and direct mail as the most effective way of gaining quality sales leads.

Yet one-third of the exhibitors said they would use the trade press to unveil a new product with only one-quarter favouring an exhibition launch.

Visitors wanted to see more knowledgeable staff on the exhibition stands. They also demanded a total marketplace, with as many companies as possible from their sector represented.

## How we won the Space Race



Using cost saving fast track building techniques, the Bovis Design, Manage, Construct team completed the 17,000 square metre Earls Court 2 exhibition hall, together with parking for 640 cars and ancillary features in just 112 weeks, at a cost of £80 million, without disruption to British Rail or London Underground.

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P&O



# Playing for more than laughs



Jimmy Logan as Eddie Walters in *Comedians*: a period piece that speaks as powerfully as it did in the 1970s

## THEATRE

### Comedians

#### Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh

TREVOR Griffiths's masterly dissection of the politics of comedy, *Comedians*, was first seen at the Nottingham Playhouse and the National Theatre in 1975. It is very much a product of the early 1970s, a time before the Comedy Store, before the New Man and before Ben Elton. This revival proves, however, that *Comedians* is more than a period piece; it speaks as powerfully as ever, albeit in an odd assortment of Mancunian accents.

Focusing on the final meeting of an evening class for aspiring club comedians and their subsequent first public appearances, the play blends together a "state of the nation" address, some wonderful writing and some uncomfortable questions about why we laugh and what we laugh at. *Comedians* is above all a gift for the large male cast who, in the main, seize every opportunity Griffiths offers. They provide the Lyceum audience with the most satisfying piece of theatre it has seen in a long time.

Chief delight is Jimmy Logan as Eddie Walters, the comedian who once topped bills but remained true to his principles of only cracking jokes which do not hurt people. He has declined with the variety theatre, finding himself in a new era in which comedy is, in the main, confined to the club circuits and reliant on bigotry, he has turned instead to teaching the art of the stand-up comic.

With a sad sunken face and a rumpled brown suit, Logan com-

mands the stage whenever he appears. Even when he is watching the club acts perform, the eye is drawn to him, sitting at the side of the stage sinking lower and lower into his pint in disillusion. In the difficult final act, he manages his speech about a pain that is palpable. It is a glorious performance which alone would justify the revival.

The cast that surrounds Logan is near flawless. Douglas Henshall brings chilling malice as the skinhead

comic, and Joseph Long is superb in the club routines. Stuart McQuarrie and Seamus Gubbins play the voice of decency with conviction, and Ron Pember makes a wonderfully off-kilter agent. Fern Falconer as a gawky club comper almost manages to upstage every act.

The production by Ian Wooldridge and Benjamin Twist ensures that the audience never laughs at a joke without asking why. Sporadic bursts of laughter at some of the vicious jokes are soon

silenced; this is a theatrical experience in which audience embarrassment plays a part. Neil Warnington has designed a brutal concrete schoolroom, its windows drenched by rain and lit with a ghastly orange glow. It seems a pity, though, that the mainly Scottish cast were not allowed to use their own dialects. Since there has been an all-women version of *Comedians*, why not create a Scottish version?

ALASDAIR CAMERON

## CONCERT

### BBC SO/Lazarev

#### Festival Hall

HAS there ever been a better conjunction of like-minded morbid spirits than Rachmaninov's setting of Edgar Allan Poe's *The Tell-Tale Heart* in music of the utmost grandeur suffused with despair, pathos of glory that really do lead but to the grave. Sleight jingles and wedding bells either inexorably into the alarm bells of catastrophe, and then comes the tolling funeral knell.

The fatalistic Rachmaninov, like Poe, could look back on youth and see

even there the seeds of decay and demise. But the music's curiously proud sense of melancholy suggests that, whereas he could find death enshrined in birth, he was too much the pessimist to believe that re-birth is enshrined in death.

This is a piece that demands blazing commitment allied to a discriminating taste in melodrama. Alexander Lazarev failed to provide much of either on Monday. Paying to such a small audience could not have helped, and Lazarev did at least obtain broad, sonorous effects from the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Singers and Symphony Chorus. The choral singing was alert and had good attack, though it lacked Russian clout in the nethermost regions.

But the performance had no emotional charge. Even the cor anglais's marvellous threnody at the finale's outset seemed matter-of-fact. There were also some poor miscalculations, none more corny than the ridiculously overdone organ crescendo on the last chord. David Wilson-Johnson produced some fine, sepulchral brass singing, and the soprano Helen Field also managed to inject a little ardour into proceedings. The tenor Ian Caley, however, seemed still only halfway up some private learning curve.

Earlier, the young conductor Andrew Mogridge had obtained a precise and sympathetic performance of Panufnik's Fifth Symphony — the "Symphony of Spheres". For all its "traditional" symphonic qualities, this too

is music of desolation, but the desolation here springs not from an awareness of mortality, but from its total absence.

In this cool, mathematical world, the musical moods appear to succeed each other according to some scheme that admits no human intervention. The long sustained tunes speak, neither of love nor of anguish; the clipped woodwind scherzos are, similarly, bereft of wit. Nevertheless, Panufnik's score is crafted with customary finesse, and the device of using three drummers answering each other across the orchestra does propel the piece towards a culmination of awe-some ferocity.

RICHARD MORRISON

## CONCERT

### Shura Cherkassky

#### LPO/Jansons

#### Festival Hall

LIFE clearly begins at 80. And if it is anything like Shura Cherkassky makes it out to be, then I can't wait. His South Bank birthday recital revealed not a smugged note, not a stiff muscle. Here was neither the desecration of age nor the degeneration of mannerism into eccentricity which can so often plague the veteran performer. No reservations or qualifications had to be made. This was Cherkassky from everlasting to everlasting.

It was easy to spot what was there, not, it was much harder to define exactly the nature of the artistic licence which continues to shine through everything he plays. At times this can be glimpsed through paradox: the flamboyance of playing which is in essence powerfully and soberly con-

tained; or the deep melancholy which walks a tightrope of merriment. The Bach/Busoni Chaconne illustrated the first; the Chopin F minor Nocturne (Op 55 No 1) the second.

Both performances drew new insight from deep within the heart of each piece. Cherkassky makes one remember at last, after endless evenings of the pale and the percussive, that the piano, too, can be a resonating membrane. As the hands and fingers arched over the keys in the Chaconne with his characteristically supple plasticity, a startling range of timbres played in the light and shadow of each other. Deep octaves peeled out against high carillons, and plucking staccato penetrated near whispers of melody.

Cherkassky's Chopin followed on from a rumbustious *Perushka* Suite, and its passage was eased by an all but silent, shadowy bass improvisation of Cherkassky's own. Out of it, the Nocturne seemed to drop artfully into a sea, and harmonically uncluttered, empty space. Such idiosyncratic tuning of the ear continued as Cherkassky

began the piece in coy salon vein, only to transmute its spirit in the space of a single repeated phrase, to a mood of deep reflection.

Schumann's *Etudes Symphoniques* were full of such wonderfully knowing metamorphoses. *Kaleidoskop*, by his teacher Josef Hoffmann, and Pabst's *Eugene Onegin* paraphrase revealed him, too, as the tender and audacious comedian he loves to be. Cherkassky's encores, ranging from a Chopin Tarentella to a Morton Gould boogie woogie, were given generously, mischievously and discreetly. Now for the next ten years.

The London Philharmonic on Sunday evening was, for once, celebrating an anniversary, playing out no theme. With Mariss Jansons at the helm, it simply gave one of the most imaginatively and tremulously alive performances of Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique* London has heard for months. Each flicker of the composer's pulse had been taken, every faltering or fervent breath observed and exhaled anew.

Reveries and passions lived on the upbeat, with a mere wisp of an ascent into a truly agitated Allegro. A tight, fast vibrato shone out at the crest of a phrase. And strings, in the *Valce*, were made to sense the thrumming half-notes of the woodwind even within their own broader swaths of melody.

There were so many instances of how Jansons had taken a long-looked-at at the way this particular score worked: as accompanist in Wagner's *Wesendonk Lieder* he was hardly less meticulous. Again it was his focusing on the inner pulse of the music which provided buoyant support for the fervently human singing of the Dutch mezzo soprano Jant van Nes. Her performance brought these ecstatic contemporaries of *Tristan* down to earth, where the household blues of the third song in particular, with its fine-violin solo, were happy to take root.

HILARY FINCH

Arts features, page 15

## NEW RELEASES

**AUNT JULIA AND THE SCRIPTWITERS** (12): Gaudy kid (Kevin Kline) gets his fairy aunt (Barbara Hershey), while a soap opera writer (Peter Falk) weaves magic spells. Zesty treatment of Mervyn Vinson's multi-layered novel. Director, Jon Amiel. Orion Home Video (P428 915353).

**THE BIG BANG** (12): Newcomer Anderson — from a gangster and run to the producer of Top Gun — faces questions on sex, the cocaine, the after death. Folly amusing documentary from director James Toback. National Film Theatre (071-828 3322).

**DROP DEAD FRED** (12): A child's invisible friend (Rick Mayfield) returns in a sequel to help overcome problems. Jerry Conway's sequel is as engaging as the original. With Phoebe Cates. Also De Jure direct. Orion Home Video (P428 915353).

**HARLEY DAVIDSON AND THE MARLBORO MAN** (12): Mickey Rourke and Don Johnson marooned in a dim-witted tale of a chugging biker and a doctor. Director, Steve Wexler. Cannon Home Video (P428 915353).

**POISON** (12): Todd Haynes' style-conscious study in social desecration inspired by James G. Thompson. Unsettling. Metro (071-437 0757).

**URANUS** (12): Dark, powerful drama from Marcel Aymé's classic novel about the settling of scores in post-war France. Gérard Philipe dominates a fine cast. Director, Claude Berling. Orion Home Video (P428 915353).

**BECKETT** (12): Riveting performance from Derek Jacobi and Robert Lindsay in Anouilh's play on the relationship between Henry II and the archbishop. Theatre Royal, Haymarket. SW1 (071-830 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed, Sat, 3pm, 15mins.

**THE CURSE OF THE STARVING CLASS** (12): Held in rural California, revival of Sam Shepard's brutal drama of family life, powerful and unsettling. The Film Theatre, 28, St. James Street, EC2 (071-838 8881). Tues, 7.30pm, mat. 1.30pm.

**DANCING AT LUGHNASSA** (12): Brian Friel's Olivier Award-winning memory play set in 1930s Donegal. Phoenix, Clarendon Road, WC2 (071-867 1044). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 15mins.

**GOOD GOLLY MISS MOLLY** (12): Cheerful trip through Flanders and Slides into: film pilot but no more. Arts, Great Newport Street, WC2 (071-838 2122). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 5.45pm and 8.30pm, 15mins.

**THE GLORY OF THE GARDEN** (12): Fiebel's farce failing to find fun in late funding holes. Dukes of York's, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-835 5122). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Tues, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 15mins.

**JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNOLOGICAL DREAMCOAT** (12): Jason Donovan sings a golden wig for his golden, brilliant review. Palladium, Argyll Street, W1 (071-494 5307). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed, Sat, 2.30pm, 15mins.

**KVETCH** (12): Steven Berkoff's trip to the East-End Jewish psyche, vivid but garish. Co-stars Anita Dobson, Garriek, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5307). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 5pm and 8.30pm, 14mins.

**THE MIKADO** (12): Jonathan Miller's enormously successful staging of the Gilbert and Sullivan opera in a glamorous "grand hotel" returns to the English National Opera repertoire. A strong cast includes an outstanding "song and dance" routine from Bonaventura Bottone as Nanki-Poo, a role he created in the original staging, with mezzo-soprano Anna Caterina Antonacci and tenor John Howard alternating in the role of Kurogi. James Holmes conducts. Coliseum, St. Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-838 8181). 7.30pm.

**DAVE BRUBECK** (12): The American jazz composer and pianist best remembered for his 1950s hit "Take Five" plays the first of two British dates (the other is at Birmingham's Symphony Hall on October 25). He returns to these shores with his quartet, which features Randy Jones (sax), Jack Shama (piano) and Bill Smith (drums). Brixton, St. James Street, London EC2 (071-838 8801). 7.45pm.

**ANTHONY CARO** (12): When Henry Moore died, Anthony Caro was the closest to the title of the Greatest Living British Sculptor. This is not the retrospective which might prove the point, but an impressive and original exhibition of large recent works — the biggest, after *Olympia*, 75 ft long. Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (071-821 1313). Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm, Sun, 2-5.30pm, until January 5.

## CINEMA GUIDE

**Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and where indicated with the symbol (S) on release across the country.**

**WHY HAS BOOTH Dharma LEFT FOR THE EAST?** (12): The five Zen Buddhist disciples high in the mountains, amidst fire, wind and water. Awe-inspiring and cleansing. Directed by South Korean director Kim Ki-duk. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

**PROSPERO'S BOOKS** (12): Peter Guinness's vision of the Tempest, with John Gielgud's Prospero, a Shakespearean's last through a jungle of eye-popping images. Brilliant but exhausting. Gaze (071-727 4043) Princes (071-438 4470) Rando (071-837 8422).

**A RAGE IN HARLEM** (12): Outspoken and violent in a comic-strip Harlem, from Chester Himes's novel, an unpleasant mix. Starring Forest Whitaker, Gregory Hines, Robin Givens. Director, Bill Duke. Cinema Channel (071-352 3396) Haymarket (071-438 1327) Oxford Street (071-438 1310) Orion (071-438 1310) Whittaker (071-732 3332).

**STEPPING OUT** (12): Louis Gossett Jr.'s warm, aptly titled version of Richard Wright's play about a black man's struggle with a white woman. Director, Bill Duke. Cinema Channel (071-352 3396) Haymarket (071-438 1327) Oxford Street (071-438 1310) Orion (071-438 1310) Whittaker (071-732 3332).

**DEKALOG PARTS 3 AND 4** (12): Two, acting tales of human desecration and longing for love from Krzysztof Kieslowski's Ten Commandments cycle, marvellous to behold. Rankin (071-837 8422).

**LET HIM HAVE IT** (12): An epileptic youngster's cruel love for his mother. A noisy, powerful drama about the 1952 Craig/Bentley case. Director, Peter Jackson. Orion Leicester Square (0428 915583).

**THE RESISTIBLE RISE OF ARTURO UI** (12): Emphatically menacing "Hill" portrait by Anthony Sher in a film about the rise and fall of a fascist leader. National (Oxford), South Bank, SE1 (071-828 2252). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.15pm, mat. tomorrow, 2pm, 10mins.

**RICHARD II** (12): Alan Rickman and Anthony Lister-Jones as King Richard II and his cousin, Edward, in a powerful and moving production. Brixton, St. James Street, EC2 (071-838 8801). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, mat. tomorrow, 2pm, 15mins.

**A SWELL PARTY** (12): Four singers, two pianists in a lively tribute to Cole Porter's music. Directed by Anthony Sher. National (Oxford), South Bank, SE1 (071-828 2252). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.15pm, mat. tomorrow, 2pm, 10mins.

**THREE BIRDS LIGHTING ON A FIELD** (12): Excellent Tim Roth. Widescreen play on the good in life and the bad in death. Directed by Michael Verhoeven. Royal Court, St. James Street, SW1 (071-734 1745). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 25mins.

**THUNDERBIRDS F.A.B. — THE NEXT GENERATION** (12): The cut stage version of cut television show, performed by two actors wearing space-hats.

## TODAY'S EVENTS

**ROYAL LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC** (12): Concert by Sir Charles Mackerras. The Philharmonic will play a concert of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic. Concert, 20, St. James Street, EC2 (071-838 8181). 7.30pm.

**SHOBANA JEYASINGH** (12): Shobana Jeyasingh's company is the first Indian dance troupe to take part in the Denon Umbrella Festival. A leading pioneer in blending classical Indian dance with Western dance, her past productions (with company and as Michael Hymans and Orlando Gough) have been widely acclaimed. She works with the London-based choreographer Christopher YOUNG.

**THE REVENGERS' COMEDIES** (12): Alan Ayckmore's latest play is an ambitious, two-part dark comedy centered on the chance meeting of an incongruous pair of strangers: Karen — played by Le Williams — is a wealthy and beautiful young woman who meets Henry, a middle-aged, recently redundant accountant (played by Gill Ryan Jones). Co-starring Jonathan Ross, the play is directed by Ayckmore. Opening night (Part 1), Strand Theatre, Strand, London EC4 (071-438 1310). 7pm.

**MEETING VENUS** (12): Backstage drama while staging Tennessee Williams' *Camelot*, directed by John Gielgud. Produced by David Putnam. Brixton, St. James Street, EC2 (071-838 8801). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Wed, Sat, 2.30pm, 15mins.

**PROSPERO'S BOOKS** (12): Peter Guinness's vision of the Tempest, with John Gielgud's Prospero, a Shakespearean's last through a jungle of eye-popping images. Brilliant but exhausting. Gaze (071-727 4043) Princes (071-438 4470) Rando (071-837 8422).

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**MASTER DRAWINGS FROM THE COURTAULD COLLECTION** (12): The Courtauld Institute is exhibiting 80 of the most splendid drawings, some of which have not been shown in public before. The exhibition covers a period from the beginning of the 15th century, only one of the most splendid drawings, some of which have not been shown in public before. The exhibition covers a period from the beginning of the 15th century, only one of the most splendid drawings, some of which have not been shown in public before.

**MATS LIDSTRÖM** (12): Swedish-born Mats Lidström, one of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra's principal players, joins forces with pianist Sandra Shapiro performing sonatas by Haydn, Beethoven, Chopin, Schumann, Liszt and Shostakovich. Royal Court, St. James Street, SW1 (071-734 1745). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 25mins.

## WORD-WORD

Answers from page 24

**GRANNEXE** (a) An extension added to a house to accommodate an elderly relative, a telescoped version of granny annexe, which appeared in the late Seventies as a derelict house with grannexed potential.

**STAVESACK** (c) A tall lankster, *Delphinium Staphyria*, whose seeds were formerly used against lice and as an emetic, from the Greek *staphylos* raisin + *agrios* wild: "Pound burst comma and stavesack of equal quantities and mix it with wine."

**GUEREZA** (c) A large long-haired black-and-white African monkey with a bushy tail. Colloquially, apparently of Somali origin: "The beautifully adorned guereza is found in the mountainous parts of Abyssinia."

**TRANSENNA** (c) A screen enclosing a shrine, from the Latin *transenna* a trap for birds made of netting, probably derived from the Greek *transenna* is surmounted by a curved wooden transenna.

## By Raymond Keene

Chess Correspondent

Today's position is from the game Bernard — Ellis, Montpellier 1991. White has managed to dislodge the black king. How does he now capitalise?



White to move. What is the best move?

## LONDON'S HYSTERICAL NEW COMEDY

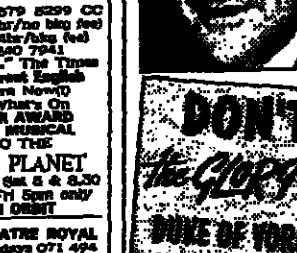
JILL GASCOINE

the messianic with a not so gentle touch... "magical"



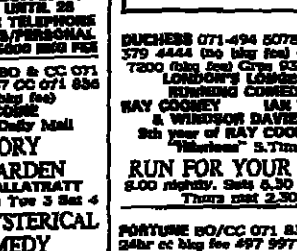
RUSSELL DIXON

the can man who gets caught out... "arabesque"



STEVEN MACKINTOSH

the boy blunder... "lick as two sharp pencils but a wait to head the boards"



## DO NOT MISS IT!

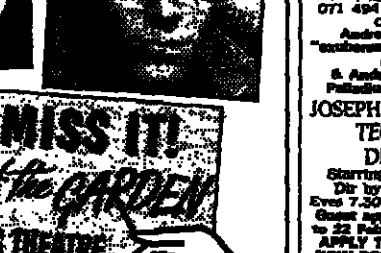
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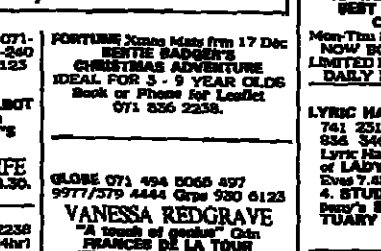
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## THEATRE

Answers from page 24

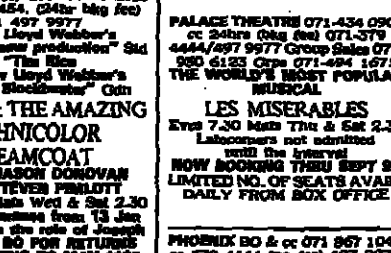
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White to move. What is the best move?





## Guide to the nation's attitudes

## Britons consumed by healthy eating and modest ambitions

By RAY CLANCY

THE typical Briton has modest ambitions, likes watching television or a video, spends a lot of time in the pub but is concerned about diet, according to a book published tomorrow.

Whether the prime minister likes it or not, Britain is still a class-ridden society. "The British people fervently believe that class divisions still exist," says *Typically British*, the first in a series of annual guides to public opinion.

Women, people at the lower end of the social scale and those with less money were more likely to believe that our society was classless.

Ambition in Britain is modest. For 15-year-olds, the main ambitions were learning to

drive, getting married, travelling abroad and buying a home. Slightly higher aspirations included travelling the world, winning the pools and becoming a millionaire. However, the book says, "surely everybody has fantasised about circling the globe and making lots of money."

An analysis of ambitions paints a picture of frustration. In only two areas — living abroad and appearing on television — did achievement exactly match aspiration. "People seem either to have got more than they bargained for or less than they wanted. Mismatch between aspiration and achievement looks like the order of the day."

The three most common

leisure activities were watching television or a video, shopping for food and reading books. Despite the recession a high number still ate in restaurants or pubs. Under-35s took more exercise and went to pubs more frequently, while over-35s did more shopping for food, gardening and DIY.

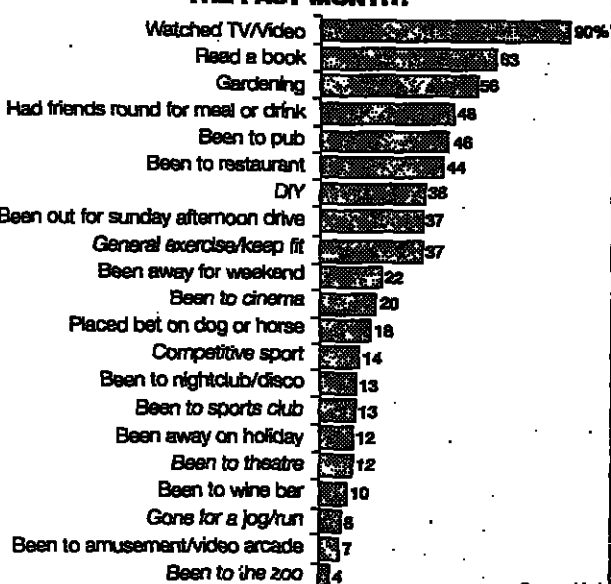
Attitude to diet has changed dramatically. Today 87 per cent of people believe that a healthy diet is important, but an examination of meals eaten showed that high-fat food such as fish and chips and fry-ups were still the most popular meals. At least half said they had eaten fresh fruit, vegetables, wholemeal bread and high-fibre cereals. Those who drank a lot of alcohol, put sugar in their drinks, smoked and ate a lot of high-fat foods were in a minority.

Being a vegetarian may be considered fashionable, although people are not rushing to give up meat. In the month up to questioning 84 per cent had eaten a roast, 74 per cent fish and chips, 72 per cent sausages, bacon and eggs, 45 per cent Chinese meals and 30 per cent Indian.

Britain's status as a nation of animal lovers is maintained, with 49 per cent of the 1,230 questioned face to face in April and May owning a pet. Asked if they preferred their pets to their relatives, 46 per cent agreed, while 25 per cent disagreed and the rest offered no opinion.

*Typically British: The Prudential Mori guide* (Bloomsbury Publishing, 2, Soho Square, London, W1V 5DE; £9.99)

## WHAT DID YOU DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME IN THE PAST MONTH?



## Midlanders are happiest

THE happiest people in Britain are married, living in the Midlands, where they are buying their home, are aged under 35 and plan to vote Conservatives (Ray Clancy writes). The unhappiest are single or divorced, live in the North in a council house and plan to vote Labour, according to the research.

The authors found most people positive about their personal happiness with only 3 per cent describing themselves as very unhappy. Marriages and relationships are generally happy and nobody regards divorce as any sort of achievement. Many things contribute to happiness but the biggest influence is money.

A comparison with a Mori

poll of a decade ago shows that the ingredients for happiness have not changed much. The main differences were that family life, although still in second place, had declined by 7 per cent in importance and health, still in first place, had increased by 5 per cent.

Overall, people are generally less happy in 1991 than in 1981 and specifically less happy with their relationships, which declined in contributing to happiness by 5 per cent. The most important quality for a successful relationship was deemed to be a sense of humour, the capacity to share a laugh when things go wrong.

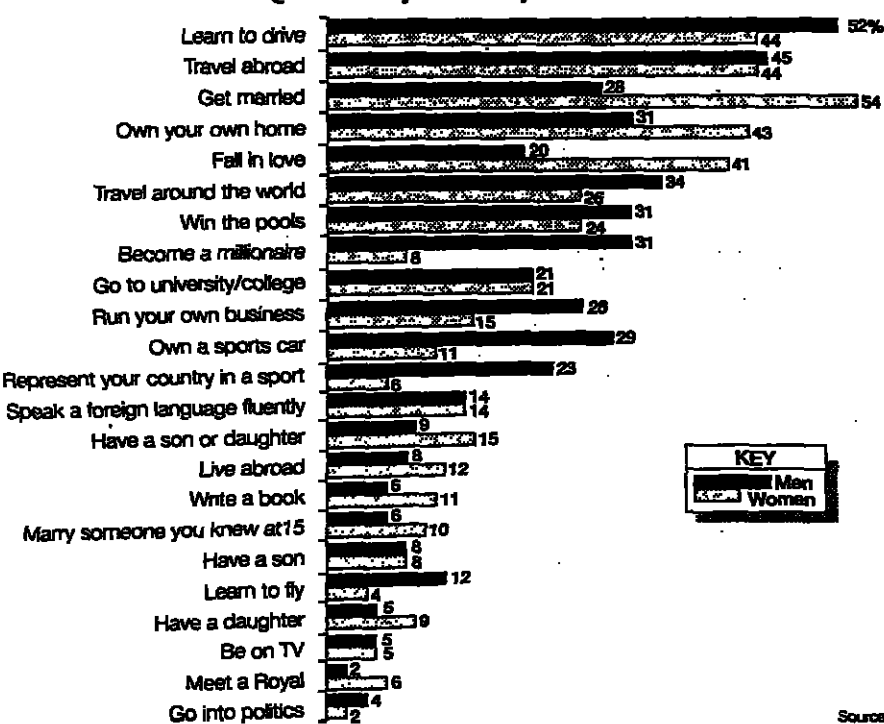
The guide found that the British are unsure about their role in the world in the next

century but more believe that the nation's destiny lies in Europe. Young people are less concerned about Britain's worldwide standing, compared with those aged over 55 who recall the era of the empire.

Over the past 22 years attitudes have moved steadily towards Europe and away from the Commonwealth and America. The Commonwealth's rating has more than halved, America's has slipped by a third and Europe's has risen more than one and a half times. Most people believe that membership of the EC has given industry greater opportunities and increased the political stability of Europe.

## HOPES, DREAMS, ACHIEVEMENTS

Q What were yours when you were 15?



## Business travel 'wastes time'

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

TRAVELLING to business meetings is usually a waste of time, according to 75 per cent of executives questioned on behalf of BT, which hopes to cash in on the growing disillusionment by selling more video conference equipment.

Business travel achieves little, costs a lot, adds to executive stress, reduces efficiency and increases drinking and smoking. It can be replaced with electronic equipment that can link companies all over the world for a fraction of the cost, the executives said.

The independent survey, carried out by the Kristal Corporation among 75 senior managers in five leading British companies, showed

that 91 per cent believed that business travel disrupted home, family and work routines, sent stress levels soaring yet achieved little.

The problems involved in travelling to meetings made them irritable, tired, tense, anxious, angry or bored. That caused 27 per cent to lose their temper, 20 per cent to perform badly, 16 per cent to have disturbed sleep and 13 per cent to take solace in alcohol.

The technology exists for large companies to install, at a cost of between £37,000 and £100,000, video conference equipment which can link them into similar networks in 14 countries.

By next year BT will be ready to market individual

desktop videos, initially costing £5,000, which will enable anyone to make a direct dial call to anywhere in the world and see an instant picture of the person they want to talk to at the other end.

Personal computers will be able to use the facility through a card slipped into a slot in the back. As the technology improves still further, prices are expected to drop to under £1,000 an installation. The cost of each video call is twice as much as the existing price of a telephone call.

Sales of the new equipment increased during the Gulf war when many businessmen stopped travelling.

## Race driver in CS assault is freed

BERTRAND Gachot, the French formula one racing driver jailed in August for assaulting a taxi driver, was freed yesterday after he won an appeal against his 18-month sentence (Ray Clancy writes).

The Court of Appeal decided the sentence was too harsh and reduced it to nine months, of which six months were suspended, allowing M Gachot, aged 28, of Fulham, southwest London, to go free. His career driving for the British-based Jordan team was halted when he was convicted of possessing a prohibited weapon — a CS gas canister — and causing actual bodily harm to Eric Court after a minor car accident at Hyde Park Corner.

M Gachot hopes to be back on the race circuit this weekend. He said: "Being in an English prison for two months has cost me almost £1 million. That must be the most expensive accommodation in Europe. It is certainly the least attractive. I have spent two months in prison for no reason."

The appeal judges, Lord Lane, Mr Justice Roch and Mr Justice Auld, who had earlier refused Gachot leave to appeal against conviction, were told that he had missed four grand prix races and lost at least £300,000 in earnings. "These consequences are too grave for this man's conduct in this case," Mr Justice Roch said.

At his trial at Southwark crown court M Gachot said he used the CS gas in self-defence in an argument, after his car was in a minor collision with the taxi.



Free again: Bertrand Gachot leaving the court yesterday after his sentence was cut

## Cleveland families agree to £1m deal

By PETER DAVENPORT

FAMILIES caught up in the Cleveland child sex abuse affair yesterday accepted an out-of-court settlement totalling about £1 million as compensation for their ordeal. They said that it was vindication of their innocence and the nearest they would get to an apology.

The settlement was agreed in the High Court at Teesside after talks between the families' lawyers and those of paediatricians at the centre of the affair, a health authority and Cleveland county council. Families returned to court yesterday to tell Mr Justice Popplewell that they accepted it.

In total, 121 children were taken from their homes after being diagnosed as victims of sexual abuse during the summer of 1987. The legal action involved 28 families and 59 children. They sued the county council, the Northern regional health authority and Dr Marietta Higgs and Dr Geoffrey Wyatt for distress.

Compensation is believed to be between £7,000 and £40,000 for each child, plus legal costs. The money will be held in trust for the children.

One mother said: "To children, it shows that someone has done something wrong and is paying for it."

Suavi Bell, Labour MP for Middlesbrough, who championed the parents' cause, said: "Had there been an apology four years ago, none of this court action would have been necessary."



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Poundbury design embodies Prince of Wales's vision of building in the countryside without spoiling it

## Duchy village plan borrows from past

THE Duchy of Cornwall yesterday unveiled its long-awaited plans for the new "village" of Poundbury on the edge of Dorchester, the county town of Dorset.

The scheme, in the words of the Prince of Wales, is intended to tackle the problem of "how to build in our countryside without spoiling it". The proposals draw on the principles advanced in the prince's book *A Vision of Britain*, incorporating, says the duchy, "a mix of uses, within buildings of a human scale, which will be built in the local style, using traditional methods and materials".

The planning application is for an 18-acre development providing homes for 700 people in 244 houses and flats. The duchy has brought in Andrew Hamilton, development co-ordinator of the riverside development at Richmond upon Thames. He said: "The units are aimed at providing value for money, varying from £55,000 to £60,000 to £140,000 for a four-bedroom detached

Critics may cry "Disney" but the scheme is based on one of the most appealing features of England, says Marcus Binney

house." Among the houses for sale, a fifth will be reserved for association accommodation at affordable rents.

Outline planning permission was granted two years ago and, at the insistence of the prince, much time since then has been spent in local consultations. As a result, the workshop element has been separated from the housing, though it remains only a few minutes walk away, in accordance with the ideals of the prince's master planner, Leon Krier, a critic of the post-war system of segregating uses into separate zones.

The scheme comes to terms with the problems of

vehicles and car parking. Kevin Knott, deputy director of the duchy, said: "The convention has been to lay out the roads and fit the homes around them. With Krier it is the buildings and open spaces which direct the line of the roads."

As the development is on the plan of a half octagon, there are repeated kinks in the streets to slow traffic and provide visual interest. Building lines are not uniform and roads constantly change in width. Houses and cottages are grouped in short runs of five or six, echoing the pattern of older towns.

Five architectural practices have been involved in plans for the development, three in London, two in Dorset. They include John Simpson, designer of the original classical Paternoster scheme, and Demetri Porphyrios, architect of highly acclaimed London houses in a restrained Georgian style. The local practices are Western Design and Clive Hawkins, who has built new houses in the



Looking ahead: Carl Laubin's impression of the road leading to the market square in the village of Poundbury

Dorset estate village of Abbotsbury.

The housing designs at Poundbury are evidently based on a close study of the traditional cottage architec-

ture of Dorset villages, with a minimum of frills.

A strict building code will demand the use of such materials as handmade or stockbricks, "penny-thin"

pointing, traditional wooden sashes and casements and will bar such features as aluminium sliding windows and plastic or illuminated shop fascias.

If full planning permission is obtained, the aim is to begin work on the infrastructure next summer. The development will then be offered in small lots to local

builders, as well as to individuals who want to build their own homes.

It is hoped that the first houses will be completed in 1993. The builders will have to meet many requirements of the green code on insulation or storage, water economy, and building materials obtained from renewable resources.

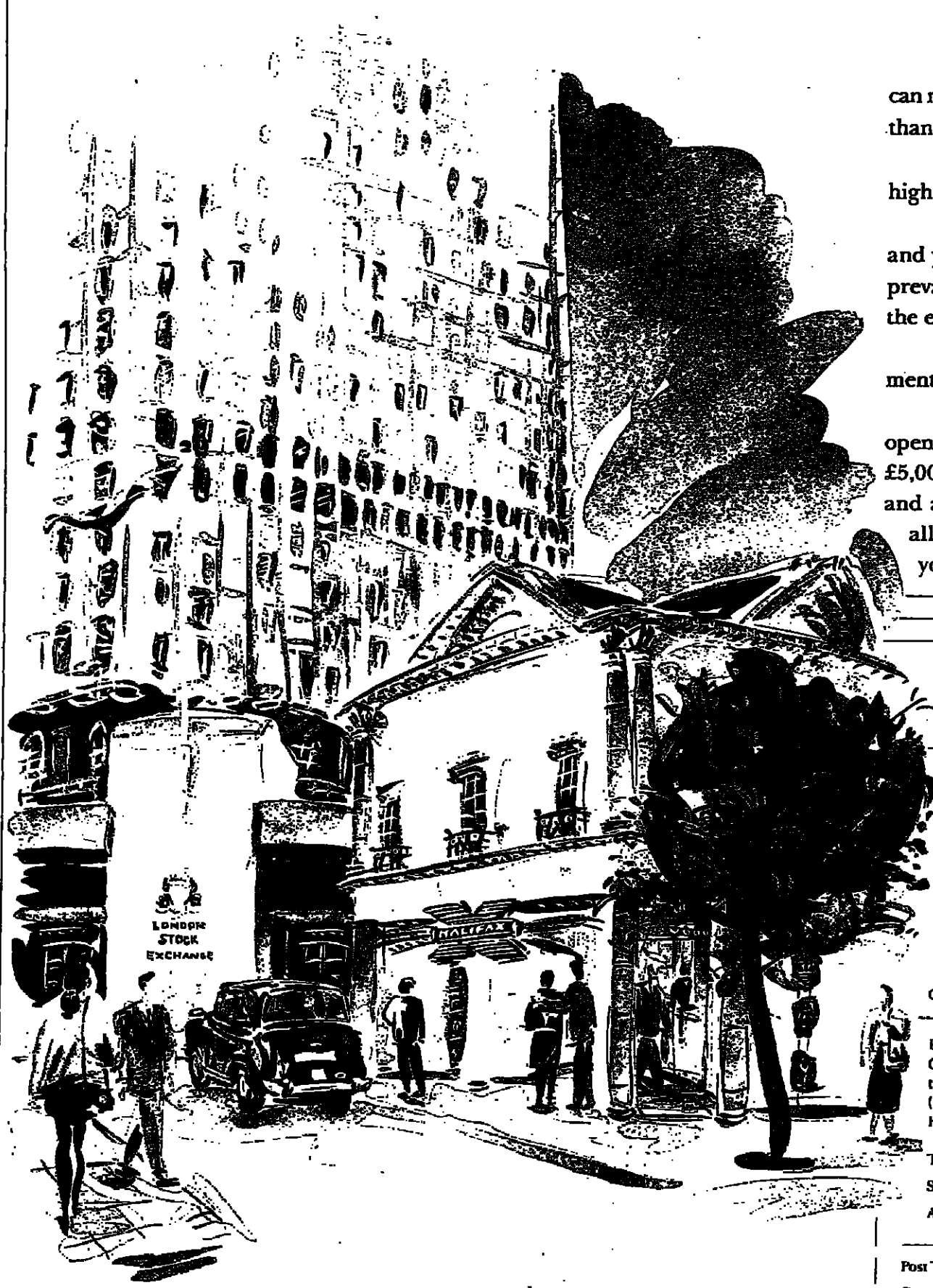
The centrepiece of the development will be a tower designed by Krier with four obelisks or pyramids of unequal height at the corners. The intention is to construct the tower over a long period, possibly with the help of student labour.

The other focal point is John Simpson's arcaded market hall. At its entrance Porphyrios has designed a set of offices in a stripped down version of Scottish baronial.

While the proposals may attract cries of "Disney" and "pastiche", the virtue of the prince's approach is that the architecture is based on that appealing English feature, the rows of artisans' cottages found in many ancient villages and towns.

John Lock, chairman of West Dorset planning committee, says the application could go before the committee at the end of next month. He saw it as "a very acceptable start to a much larger scheme".

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## Orkneys care leader denies deal

By KERRY GILL

A SENIOR social worker involved in the dawn seizures of nine Orkney children after allegations of sexual abuse yesterday denied offering parents a deal that would allow them to visit their children while in care.

Susan Millar, in her second week of evidence to the judicial enquiry at Kirkwall, also rejected a suggestion that she had put pressure on parents to say that they had abused their children. She said she had made an offer to one of the four sets of parents involved to visit the social work department at any time. Edward Targowski, QC, for the families involved, put it to Mrs Millar that she had suggested to Mr and Mrs T. "Any time you wish to discuss any of your relationships with your children I would be very happy to listen. Remember, an abused child will never fully recover until the abuser admits his guilt."

Mrs Millar replied: "I did not say that. What I said was that if they wanted to come into the department at any time to talk about their children, they could." She said she would have been happy to work with the parents even if the allegations were true.

The enquiry continues today.



Millar: 'no pressure was put on parents'

## Children die in house fire

Three children died in a fire at their home in New Tredegar, Mid Glamorgan, yesterday as their parents tried to reach them. Nicholas Adams, aged eight, Richard, four, and Ashley, three, were trapped in their bedrooms in the terrace house.

Their parents, Russell and Sian Adams, were severely burned as they tried to fight their way through the flames to the children. Mrs Adams jumped from a first-floor window.

The cause of the blaze is not known. A neighbour said that double glazing had hindered rescue attempts.

## Rush decision

Ian Rush and David Burrows, the Liverpool footballers, are not to be prosecuted over police allegations that they raced each other in their cars through the Wallasey Mersey tunnel, the Crown Prosecution Service said.

## Safe and Shaw

Charles Haughey, Ireland's prime minister, has agreed to provide £54,000 of government money to save the Dublin birthplace of the writer George Bernard Shaw. The money will pay off a bank loan used by the Shaw Trust to buy the house in 1989.

## Letter warning

The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, central London, has asked the public to stop responding to fund-raising chain letters after advice that they could be open to abuse. The hospital has received £300,000 from two chain letters so far.

## Drugs arrest

A man driving a Daimler was arrested at Newhaven, Sussex, after customs officers found cocaine worth £300,000 under the back seat. It is believed to be the first cocaine seizure at the port.

## OED scales down from 65 kilos

By PHILIP HOWARD, LITERARY EDITOR

THE nuclear bomb of books goes off tomorrow, condensing more bang of contents into smaller space than has been achieved in publishing before. *The Compact Oxford English Dictionary*, micrographically reduced to print suitable for Lilliput, squeezes the complete text of the second edition of the OED, published in 1989, into one stout volume.

The 21,728 pages of the full-scale edition have been shrunk to 2,400, by condensing nine pages of the original into one. The full edition, edited by J. A. Simpson and E. S. C. Weiner, weighed in at 65 kilos and cost £1,500, and although widely hailed as the king of the lexicographical

disaster. The compact edition is part of the long slog to recoup the huge investment. It costs only £150, which brings it within the reach of the public as well as libraries. They will get value for money: 500,000 head-

words that are deemed the central overlapping cores of the English language, 59 million words of text, 220,000 etymologies referring to 1,380 languages, 25,000 quotations from the Bible, 33,300 from Shakespeare, and citations from *Beowulf* to a gratifying number from *The Times*.

One snag with the new edition is that it is difficult to read with the naked eye. Oxford supplies a more efficient magnifying glass than with their previous micrographically reduced books (first edition of the OED and the *Dictionary of National Biography*), and a little electric bulb, but no batteries.

But, as Sam Johnson, one of the founding fathers of lexicography, said: "Dictionaries are like watches; the worst is better than none, and the best cannot be expected to go quite true." This is the best, and of course it does not go quite true.



JAZZ

# Fingers on the pulse of New Orleans

Wynton Marsalis has just produced his best album to date. Clive Davis meets the trumpeter

A sunlit autumn day in Paris. In his room at the Hilton, Wynton Marsalis is hunched over an electric piano, working at the score for a ballet which is to be performed in New York later this year. He teases out a chord over and over again, trying to assess how it will sound against reeds and brass. Finally satisfied, he sits in an armchair. The conversation can begin.

Not that it flows easily. First, there are the interruptions: phone calls from friends and colleagues, and in one case from a young trumpeter seeking advice. Then, towards the end of our allotted hour, a musician arrives for a game of basketball. Marsalis disappears into the bedroom to change into a tracksuit.

When he reappears he is more interested in dribbling the ball down the corridor than in discussing music. More frustrating still, he seldom drops his guard when talking. Each answer is as measured as one of his solos. Encounters with the press appear to be treated as a necessary evil. Like most musicians, he gives the impression that he is much happier to communicate through his instrument.

Regarded for so long as a boy wonder, Marsalis turns 30 on Friday. By a happy coincidence he has released his most relaxed and enjoyable album in years, the soundtrack to *Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter*. The record is called *Time in Tomorrow*, in keeping with the film's American title.

As the film is set in his home town of New Orleans, Marsalis was a natural choice as the composer, and he responded with a rich pastiche of Bourbon Street jazz, big band swing and blues. If the mood and instrumentation are reminiscent of Duke Ellington's late masterpiece "New Orleans Suite", that is no accident: the director Jon Amiel apparently suggested the suite as a model, and Marsalis recycled one or two of Ellington motifs.

With the death of Miles Davis, many regard Marsalis as the premier trumpeter in jazz. Unusually, he also

commands respect in the classical field. The son of the respected jazz pianist Ellis Marsalis, he made his classical concert debut at the age of 14, playing that old warhorse, the Haydn Trumpet Concerto. In 1984 he became the first musician to win Grammy awards in both the jazz and classical categories, and the pre-eminent classical trumpeter, Maurice André, acclaimed him as "potentially the greatest trumpeter of all time". Since then Marsalis has become the spokesman for a generation — dubbed "neo-classicists" — which has rejected commercial jazz-rock and the avant-garde. His early albums were, in effect, re-creations of the complex group improvisation of Miles Davis's mid-Sixties quintets.

To his admirers, Marsalis is a standard-bearer who has reasserted the primacy of technical skill. Others argue that he is an arid technocrat engaged in a vain attempt to recreate past splendours. Davis, who had long moved on to a lucrative brand of jazz-rock, voiced doubts in his autobiography: "He's still a nice young man, only confused. I knew he could play the hell out of classical music and had the technical skills in trumpet... But you need more than that to play great jazz music — you need feelings and an understanding of life that you can only get from living, from experience."

The two men were engaged in a verbal duel for most of the Eighties. Marsalis says that the dispute was blown out of proportion. "When Miles was serious about playing, he was great. The stuff he did later was pop music. He knew it; I knew it. We had many conversations, and we didn't talk about it because we knew what the deal was. He would talk about Fats Navarro or Monk to me. I didn't want to hear about 'Human Nature' and all those pop songs."

"But in public he could say whatever he liked. It was a game. He had his music and he was trying to present it to the public. Now he can't come out and say, 'Well, I'm talking bull.' Of course, most of the media



Prolific trumpeter: Marsalis is currently working on eight albums, after his successful *Time in Tomorrow*

was on his side. They thought I was disrespectful to my elders, but Miles understood. There was never any confusion between us."

The most commonly heard criticism is that Marsalis has yet to develop a distinctly personal or innovative style. Louis Armstrong, after all, made his greatest recordings — the "Hot Fives" — well before he was 30. Bix Beiderbecke was dead at 28, Clifford Brown at 25. While Davis's peak period came in his thirties, he had fashioned his individual sound long before.

Marsalis, by contrast, still seems to be absorbing influences, moving back and forth between genres like a man sampling dishes at a banquet. After the rampant commercializa-

tion of the Seventies, he argues, his generation has had to re-learn the basics.

His first handful of albums reached an extraordinary level of virtuosity, the intricate phrasing delivered at speed above constantly shifting metres. Exhilarating stuff, if taken in moderate doses. With the release of *I Mood* in 1986, he began to explore more expressive blues-oriented compositions. *The Majesty of the Blues*, released two years later, startled everyone by delving back even further, to traditional New Orleans melodies. In contrast to his early laser precision, Marsalis was now growing through an old-fashioned plunger mute.

One problem in assessing his

progress is that he is so prolific. At the moment, he says, he has no fewer than eight albums in the can. Critics often find themselves passing judgment on material that is two or three years old. In the meantime, one of his priorities is to make his work more accessible, without succumbing to the disco beat.

"Commercialisation doesn't work," he says. "The best way to reach people is to present something in all its grandeur. The question is, how to reach a bigger audience without bastardising the music. That's what I'm working on."

Wynton Marsalis appears at the Symphony Hall, Birmingham (021-212 3333) tonight, and at the Festival Hall (071-928 8800) on Saturday.

In Paris, Andrew Gibbon Williams visits the Jeu de Paume gallery, remodelled with state-of-the-art interiors

When the world's finest collection of Impressionist paintings was transferred to the stylishly converted Gare d'Orsay in 1986, few seemed concerned about the fate of its former home. This was odd, because over the previous 40 years the pavilion called the Jeu de Paume which stands at the corner of the Tuileries, parallel with the Rue de Rivoli, had become — not withstanding its parent institution, the Louvre itself — the best loved museum in Paris.

In Mitterrand's France, however, buildings of such cultural prestige are not allowed to languish for long. The Ministry of Culture and Communication was active. An architectural competition was set up and a design submitted by Antoine Sincro chosen.

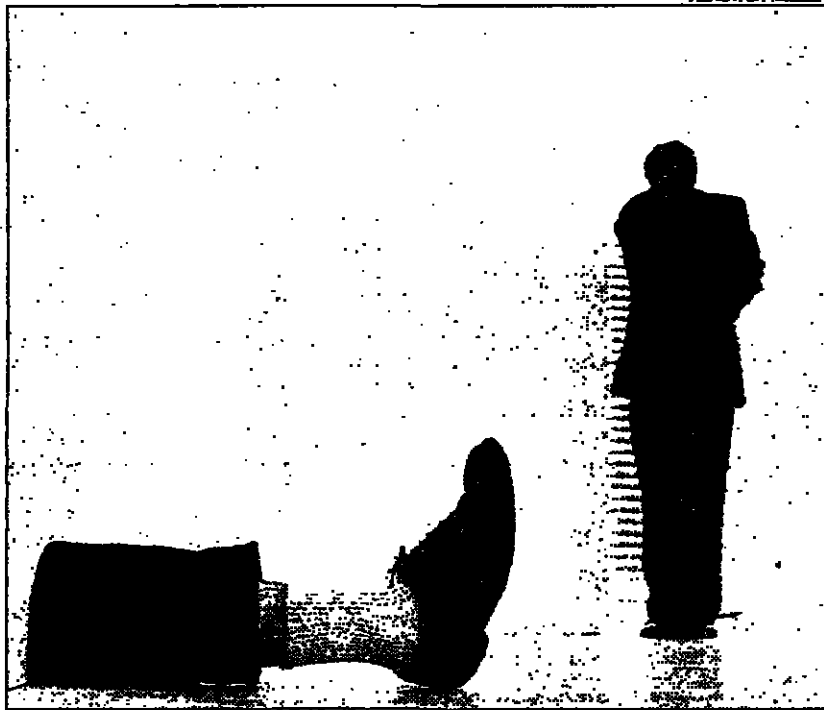
The edifice was gutted and a suite of state-of-the-art galleries inserted into the shell of the mid-19th century building. Rechristened the Galerie Nationale du Jeu de Paume, this latest architectural feather in the president's densely plumbed cap was inaugurated with an exhibition surveying the prolific last years of the artist Jean Dubuffet.

Of course, brutal Gallic confidence like this makes architects and planners on this side of the Channel drool with envy. But a process of long drawn-out committee sessions is not (as the Paris-London rail link presently forging towards Calais demonstrates) the French way. Had faint conservative hearts among France's decision-making elite interceded, however, they would have had a weak argu-

## Enlightening an old friend



The latest architectural feather in Mitterrand's densely plumbed cap: the 19th century shell of the Galerie Nationale du Jeu de Paume (left), with rebuilt modern interiors encasing pieces such as Robert Gober's untitled artwork (right)



ment for the Jeu de Paume has been remodelled and adulterated almost continuously since it was built.

Napoleon III authorised the construction of a court for the playing of the game of "paume" or royal tennis in 1860. The game was *passé* even then. In 1879, after the Commune had deprived Paris of the Tuileries Palace, the Republic added a sister court, but by 1909 the complex's

original function was redundant and it was decided to use it for exhibitions. During the Twenties, all sort of permanent and semi-permanent partitions were introduced, and then, in the years preceding 1932 (in preparation for its short and illustrious life as the Musée des Ecoles Etrangères Contemporaines) previously blind bays were opened up and a second storey created inside.

Entering Sincro's Jeu de Paume is a shock, but an extremely pleasant and stimulating one. From the outside, on the Terrasse des Feuillants, all seems familiar. Once inside the plate-glassed, arched entrance, however, one is confronted by a severe arrangement of geometric planes in pristine white which might have been lifted from a Ben Nicholson sketch pad. One staircase rises diagonally from

the building's longitudinal axis to the upper galleries; another descends to a screening room at an acute angle to the Tuileries facade; the perspective is interrupted by the projecting overhang of the first floor galleries. This entire memorable entrance hall is bathed in light flooding in from the glazed-in bays which also permit fabulous views of the Concorde obelisk, the dome of the Grand Palais

and even the Eiffel Tower. The exhibition rooms themselves (the upper skylit, the lower illuminated artificially) are virtually windowless; they are in fact no more than grander versions of the featureless spaces so characteristic of the New York SoHo art scene. All utility mechanisms are concealed.

A criticism that will doubtless be levelled at Sincro is that within the environment he has created the visitor is entirely oblivious of the Jeu de Paume's picturesque, pedimented, porticoed and arched exterior. But his radical solution is surely correct. Any compromise would have inhibited the new museum's purpose: to enable the most advanced developments in contemporary art to be displayed to best advantage.

In 1921, Marcel Proust roused himself from his bed in order to go and see his favourite picture, Vermeer's *View of Delft*, then on view at the Jeu de Paume. He immortalised his visit in a famous passage of *A la Recherche du Temps Perdu*.

Twenty years later, Goering gloated over the artistic spoils that he had destined for a museum to be founded in his Führer's home town of Linz. Now only descriptions and photographs of the famous museum they experienced remain. And perhaps, just as Belle Epoque and Nazi-occupied Paris have disappeared, it is better that way.

ARTS REVIEWS  
Theatre and classical music  
Page 22

## Future for the Phil

THE Philharmonia Orchestra has reached agreement with the South Bank Centre about its future Festival Hall work.

The agreement guarantees the orchestra a minimum of 40 dates per year in the Festival Hall, with each concert assured of three rehearsals in the hall itself. Not bad for the orchestra which did not win the South Bank residency. "It allows us to plan up to three years in advance," says David Whetton, the orchestra's managing director. "We can also repeat our Paris programmes in London and vice versa."

The Philharmonia has also recently appointed the 32-

year-old Scottish composer James MacMillan as its "visiting composer". He will direct a contemporary music series in the orchestra's 1992/93 Festival Hall season.

## In the running

LONG absent from Hollywood, heavyweight director Stanley Kramer may be making his first film since *The Runner Stumbles* in 1979. *Bubble Man* is its name, though its nature is so far undisclosed. But he warned: four Kramer projects have capsized in the last four years. He was due to make dramas about Chernobyl and Beirut; then came *Polonaise*, a biography of Lech Walesa, and

more recently *E.R.N.*, a film about black soldiers in the second world war. Kramer should take heart from the title of one of his lighter efforts: *It's a Mad Mad Mad Mad World*.

## Last chance...

THE outstanding strengths of the new Royal Opera Ring have been mostly musical, and have come particularly from the impassioned, richly aware conducting of Bernard Haitink. His second journey through the cycle ends on Thursday at Covent Garden (071-240 1066), with a *Götterdämmerung* cast led again by Gwyneth Jones as a radiant and touching Brinnhilde. Renner Goldberg is standing in for René Kollo, with John Tomlinson as a meaty Hagen.

THEATRE FESTIVAL: DUBLIN

## National pride in the waiting game

Ireland is reclaiming Samuel Beckett as one of her own. Matt Wolf reports

MEANING has been a word much on peoples' lips at Dublin's Gate Theatre during the past weeks. This ever-adventurous venue has launched — in conjunction with Trinity College (Beckett's alma mater) and Radio Telefís Éireann — the largest festival yet devoted to Samuel Beckett. For many, the very mention of Beckett portends incomprehensibility and confusion. "He broke the first rule of the theatre: to entertain," says Patrick Murphy, a miller and husband of Beckett's niece, Caroline. Others feel the best approach is simply to let the material wash over one, unencumbered by exegesis.

Still others take to interpretation with a vengeance. The festival's Trinity College programme has featured no shortage of illustrious speakers, from the breathlessly funny (Christopher Ricks, whose talk "Beckett: Dying in Style" suggested that this scholar might himself make a great Beckett actor) to the ponderous (Denis Donoghue, whose "Beckett: Who Says What" was far more opaque than the works themselves could ever be).

Each performance of a Beckett play in the Gate has offered a fascinatingly diverse audience. Scholars, texts open on their laps, cast their eyes repeatedly from page to stage, while an international assortment of critics lends a Babel-like feel to the interval conversation. Liberally scattered among them are the Dubliners, eager to immerse themselves in all 19 Beckett stage plays over the three-week period. The festival could never have worked if it had just played to a rarefied academic coterie. The Gate's artistic director, Michael Colgan, points out that an event budgeted at 70 per cent capacity has played to 86 per cent to date.

If the festival has allowed for any reappraisal, it has been to give back some of the fundamental Irishness to a south Dubliner who expatriated himself in 1937 to Paris, where he died in 1989, aged 83.

Watching *Waiting for Godot* under the acute direction of long-time Beckett collaborator, the German Walter Apos, is to see Beckett's 1953 masterpiece in the hands of a cast for whom it seems second-nature.

That is not to say that Steve Martin and Robin Williams in New York or Rik Mayall and Adrian Edmondson in London should not attempt a

writer who belongs to the world. It is merely that Beckett sounds uniquely right in the mouths of interpreters such as Barry McGuovern (Vladimir) and Johnny Murphy (Estragon). Says McGuovern: "There is a particular Irishness we feel, a Hiberno-English cadence and syntax. We have a nationalistic claim on him in some way, and not a bad way. It's a good solid pride."

One achievement of the festival has been to suggest a new crop of Beckett actors to replace those who have either died (Jack MacGowran) or opted to distance themselves from the author and move on to other writers (Billie Whitelaw). Beckett wrote his terrifyingly mesmerising *Rockaby* for Whitelaw in 1981, when she premiered it in Buffalo, New York, before transferring it off-Broadway to rave reviews. Inheriting the part of a woman rocking herself "off" life and into the embrace of death, Dubliner Maureen Potter capably met the compressed rigour of the role, her incantatory repetition of the word "more" a veritable aria expressing the urgent wish for annihilation.

Like the festival sound like a wallow in doom, I assure you it is not; and Michael Colgan, for one, is keen to emend the image of a playwright mistakenly viewed as "completely and utterly pessimistic; very gloomy, academic, serious". Support for his argument lies in some of the lesser-known, shorter works.

WATCHING Beckett's 1956 *Act Without Words I*, a dizzying mime piece performed by an amusingly hangdog Derek Chapman, one is reminded that Beckett would go on to write a film script for the comedian Buster Keaton (the 1964 film). Even his 1983 *What Where*, a piece about torture, began in director Colm O'Brian's staging as a mordantly funny comment on theatrical rehearsals.

As for *Godot*, the Gate company achieved the perfect balance between comic desolation and rock-hard pain. If the Beckett Festival needed justification, which it does not, it found it in this staging in which the music hall gags and laughter invited one in, only to be met with an anguish from which mankind can never be let out.

● The Beckett Festival continues until Sunday. Enquiries to the Gate Theatre (010 353 174 4368).

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## Conor Cruise O'Brien

Irish Americans have prospered from their anti-British attitude

I spent most of last week among the Irish in Chicago. I was there to talk about Charles Stewart Parnell, as the guest of the Irish American Heritage Centre. As it turned out, my visit proved to be a test of the strength of sympathy with the provisional IRA among the Chicago Irish. The Provos came off badly, I am happy to report. When they learned I had been invited to speak, the local Provos called on the heritage centre to rescind what they called a "scheduled smearing of Parnell's sacred memory". The centre ignored the letter and the meetings went ahead. The handful of Provos pickets was also ignored.

For most Americans of Irish origin, the equation "Irish equals anti-British" has served its turn. It was always, in part, a mechanism of adaptation and upward social mobility. Irish immigrants certainly brought a lot of what Evelyn Waugh called "their ancient rancours" to America, and they soon found that these were an exploitable resource. About the first thing the children of the famine immigrants learned at school was that to rebel against British rule was a most meritorious thing in the American scheme of values. And if so, then who more meritorious than the Irish, who had been rebelling against the British for 700 years?

This had a profitable practical application. When, in the last quarter of the 19th century, the American Irish moved successfully into big city politics, they sounded off against the British. It might have seemed as if they were brooding senselessly over old, unhappy, far off things. But their real target was the American WASP establishment. Rich WASPs were vulnerable, in democratic terms, because some of them liked to socialise with the British aristocracy. This meant they could be depicted as un-American, and replaced by more red-blooded Americans, such as the Irish.

When I studied the history of Israel, I found a phenomenon closely analogous to this exploitation of xenophobia. The corresponding phenomenon in Israel has been the behaviour of the Oriental Jews who arrived in great numbers around 1950. They too were poor and disadvantaged, and faced a powerful establishment. The Israeli equivalent of the WASPs are the Ashkenazi elite, descended from the Russian Zionists who came to Palestine before the first world war and established the kibbutzim. Like the American Irish, the Oriental Jews educated in Israel soon discovered that there was a vulnerable side to this establishment. Many of the Ashkenazi elite are inclined to feel sorry for Arabs. Israelis who have lived under Arab rule have no such disposition. So the Orientals can project themselves as "better" Israelis than those who are "soft on the Arab threat".

As for the Irish in America, they advanced politically in the 19th century by implying that a person cannot be one hundred per cent American unless he is anti-British. But the breakthrough came in the early 1950s, not through playing the anti-British card, but through playing the anti-communist one, when Senator Joseph McCarthy and Cardinal Spellman convinced millions of Protestant middle Americans, including many who had been bitterly anti-Catholic, that Catholics were valuable allies in the fight against communism.

Today's Irish Americans are mostly more relaxed than their ancestors. The chip on the shoulder is somewhat out of fashion. But there are regional variations. I have never been invited to address an Irish group in New York. And if I were invited, I would make careful enquiries before accepting.

David Pannick on the secrecy surrounding judicial appointments, and what we can learn from the US

## Open this private club

Moses was advised by his father-in-law that the Children of Israel should appoint as their judges "capable, God-fearing, honest and incorruptible men". The United States Senate applies supplementary criteria for the approval of judges of the American Supreme Court, as evidenced by the days of consideration of whether Judge Clarence Thomas should be appointed as a female employee. The trial of Judge Thomas sexually harassed a female employee. The trial of Judge Thomas should encourage us to consider the virtues and defects of our own system for the appointment of senior judges.

In 1987, the Senate declined to confirm Judge Robert Bork because he doubted that courts should legislate for social reform, and Judge Douglas Ginsburg was forced to withdraw his nomination because he had smoked pot as a young man. The Senate has since confirmed more anodyne candidates, Judge Anthony M. Kennedy and Judge Antonia Scalia. The system is in danger of subsiding to the principle articulated by Senator Roman Hruska when he sought loyalty,

but in vain, to defend President Nixon's spiteful nomination of the undistinguished Judge G. Harrold Carswell. "Even if he is mediocre," enthused the Senator, "there are a lot of mediocre judges and people and lawyers. They are entitled to a little representation, aren't they?"

English lawyers are, of course, entitled to express satisfaction that we avoid such pantomimes. But before we become too complacent, we ought to note that the American legal system has the considerable virtue of recognising that judges are important public servants whose appointment should be a matter of public debate.

Earlier this month, three judges were promoted to the Appellate Committee of the House of Lords by the Queen on the advice of the prime minister. There was no prior public discussion of the criteria for appointment or the

merits of rival "candidates". We continue to apply a system of judicial appointments in which those chosen emerge after private soundings, as in papal conclaves, or the Conservative party before 1963, or a gentlemen's club.

Yet law lords have more power than backbench members of Parliament. The identity of those appointed has considerable bearing on the nature of our society, since there are wide differences in judges' approaches to such important issues as the proper scope of judicial review of administrative action, the correct interpretation of anti-discrimination law, and the relevance to the



Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson: promoted by the Queen

English legal system of the European Convention on Human Rights.

The central question is not whether different, or better, judges would be appointed by a more open system. Nor does the case for reform depend on what a man's record reveals about how he will perform in the highest appellate court. One of the great liberal judges in the Supreme Court this century, Hugo Black, only just survived the confirmation process after the revelation that he had been a member of the Ku Klux Klan. One of the last liberals still in the Court, Harry Blackmun, was appointed after President Nixon

sought, and obtained, reassurance that his three daughters were not "hippie types".

The issue is whether our present private system of patronage unjustifiably ignores the views of sections of the legal and lay community and contributes to the popular perception of a judiciary remote from the public it seeks to serve. At a time when public confidence in the legal system is low, lawyers need to ensure that criteria are stated, choices are identified, and decisions explained. The appointment of an independent judicial appointments commission to assist and advise the Lord Chancellor's department on these important public decisions deserves serious consideration.

Such reforms need not entail televised investigations of the sexual proclivities of an aspiring law lord, assessment by a House of Commons committee of a

nominee's likely attitude to cases involving the health service reforms, or M15 investigations of his personal habits as a student. They would involve the Lord Chancellor's department announcing vacancies at the most senior levels, and fostering an informed public debate as to the criteria for promotion and the judicial qualities of the candidates.

For the past few weeks, lawyers have privately been discussing these topics over lunch. It is difficult to understand why the rest of the community is not encouraged to join in. The trial of Clarence Thomas will no doubt cause some English lawyers smugly to congratulate themselves that it could not happen here. It should also lead them to ponder whether the only choices for the consumer are attending the circus conducted in the Senate or standing outside while decisions are made behind closed doors in Whitehall.

The author is a practising barrister and fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

## Trains take the financial strain

Yesterday's fare rises will only aggravate the congestion on our roads, says Richard Hope

Set aside for a moment the prime minister's bizarre intervention on behalf of his Huntingdon constituents — and some other commuters otherwise facing double-digit fare rises come January. The most remarkable feature of the 7.75 per cent average increase announced by British Rail yesterday is that it is totally unremarkable; we have been here every October for the last several years.

Back in May, the Secretary of State for Transport, Malcolm Rifkind, bared his soul before a conference of planners and engineers: "I must declare myself enthusiastically and unequivocally as desiring to see far more traffic, both passenger and freight, travelling by the railways. This would help to relieve road congestion and would take advantage of the capacity which exists on railways."

Labour's transport spokesman John Prescott is seldom at a loss for words on such occasions. "A massive conversion, greater than St Paul's on the road to Damascus," he called it, adding darkly that he would have been more impressed if Mr Rifkind had spelt out in detail how he proposed to bring about this transformation.

BR's fares are the highest in Europe: per capita subsidy to rail is correspondingly the lowest. So one obvious way to increase rail travel would have been to cut fares.

Given BR's acute cash crisis — "getting worse by the month", was how a board member described it to me recently — a dramatic reduction like that introduced on London Transport by the old Greater London Council 10 years ago might have

been too much to ask. But double the 4 per cent inflation we are promised by Christmas? How can anyone claim this is consistent with a declared intent to see more people on trains?

The official response, yesterday regurgitated by the Minister for Public Transport, Roger Freeman, is that rail investment and subsidy are both soaring, and that passengers must contribute towards the better services they enjoy. The irony of John Major's intervention is that he has deliberately undermined that principle by denying Network SouthEast the right to exercise professional judgment as to what commuters are prepared to pay for the quality of service offered on particular routes.

The annual subsidy that BR receives declined steadily from 1983 to 1989, but in the last two years it has jumped 60 per cent to £800 million. Nobody in or out of government seriously expects Network SouthEast to make a profit in 1993, let alone a full commercial return on its assets by the mid-1990s. (Interesting thought: what would the London terminus be worth as vacant sites if Network SouthEast stopped running trains? Yet these remain the formal target, five months

after Mr Rifkind's dramatic conversion.

Compare and contrast this with Holland, where the target set by government for Netherlands Railways (NS) is to double the number of passengers carried by 2005, so as to prevent road congestion from becoming even worse. The aim is not a heavily subsidised railway and give-away fares. The trick is to switch investment from road-building to expansion of the rail network so that NS can earn more. A huge expansion of the rolling-stock fleet is in hand to exploit the new infrastructure.

Here in Britain, despite the proud boasts of ministers about rising rail investment, there is currently a freeze on placing new contracts which is not specifically about safety. Thus Network SouthEast was given approval by Mr Rifkind this summer to order 188 carriages to relieve overcrowding on its Kent suburban lines, but has been prevented by the British Rail board from placing a contract because there

is no money to pay for them. Meanwhile, BR continues to scrap carriages faster than they are replaced to save the cost of maintaining them.

As to transferring funds from road to rail, this is anathema to the Department of Transport. Despite the recommendations of numerous outside bodies, contradictions abound in the way the two modes of travel are treated. For example, when assessing a new motorway, the Department of Transport will credit it with £500,000 for every life saved by transferring traffic from more dangerous parallel roads. Lives lost because the motorway will generate extra travel by car, possibly captured from public transport, are simply ignored.

Yet BR has not been allowed to take any credit for safety benefits that its recently-rejected Channel tunnel rail link might have

generated. Nor can any reduction in road congestion be included in calculations which determine whether freight using the tunnel will pass by road or rail through Kent and around London.

While recession and the downturn in property income are major factors in British Rail's cash squeeze, the huge increase in safety-related spending to £200 million a year is seriously restricting productive investment that could otherwise improve service quality. Every one of BR's projects would fail the Department of Transport's test for safety investment, by factors varying from 10 to 1,000.

Worse, a futile search for the holy grail of "absolute safety", without regard to cost or consequence, is sapping the reliability of train services, and thus

undermining revenue. Any lorry or coach operator forced to accept similar constraints would be bankrupt in six weeks.

After the King's Cross fire of 1987 and the Clapham Junction collision a year later, the then transport secretary, Paul Channon, promised that finance would never become a constraint on safety spending. Noble words, but what they mean for passengers is higher fares and fewer trains. The cause of safety as a whole is not well served by making rail travel less attractive so that more people drive instead.

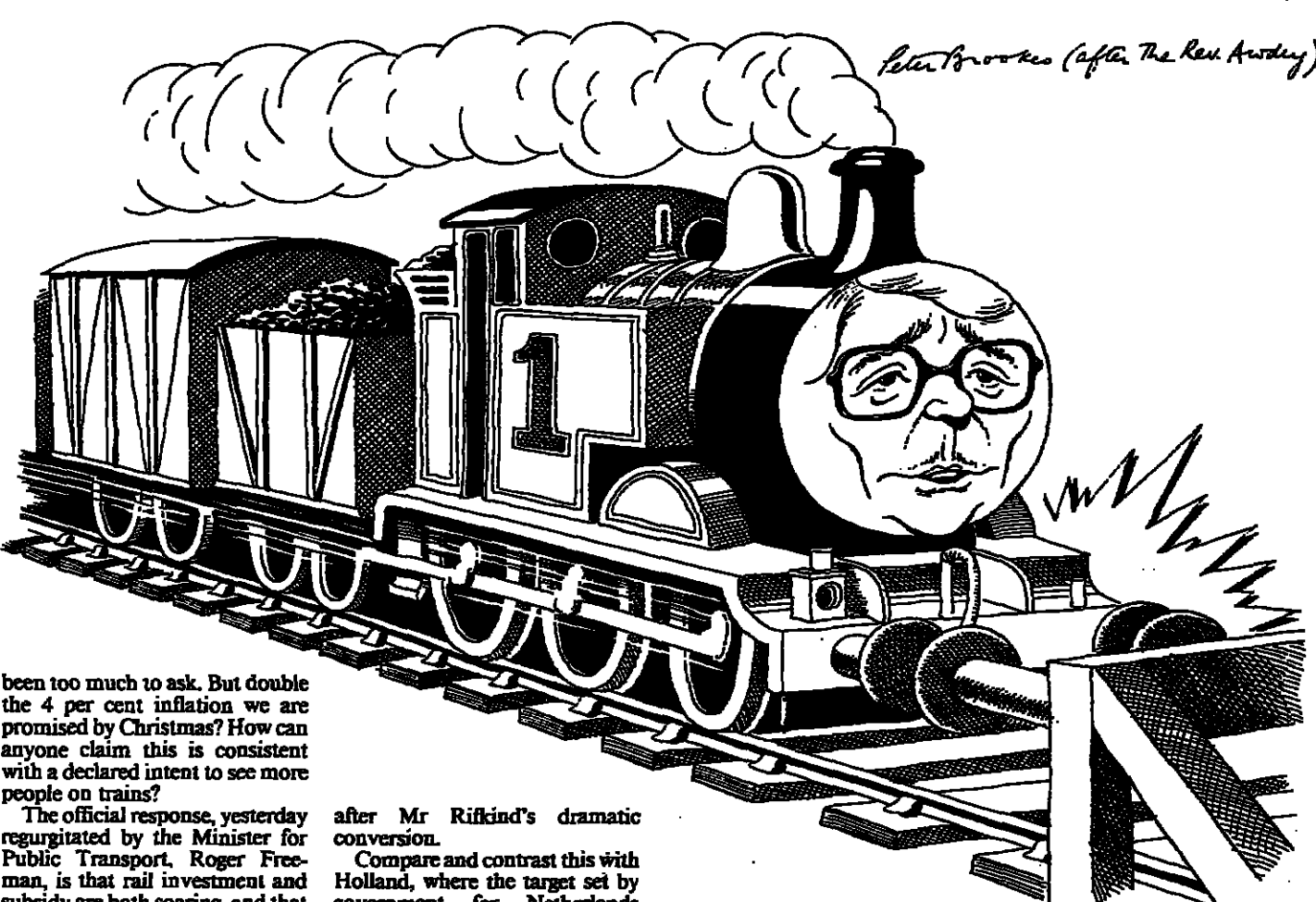
It is quite true that rail investment has reached £1 billion a year, a level not seen in real terms since the post-war modernisation plan peaked 30 years ago. The trouble is that 30 years is about the life of rolling stock and signalling, so a major bulge of renewals is underway.

Then there is the £1.5 billion of investment related to the Channel tunnel to be made by 1993 — excluding the new line now recklessly postponed until 2005. Similar sums are needed for Crossrail and the Jubilee line into Docklands.

If there is to be no switch of resources from road to rail to pay for all this, what does Mr Rifkind's statement in May mean? He has not changed the rules for investment. He is not willing to subsidise lower fares. He gives no sign of being prepared to regulate or tax cars or lorries off the roads. Perhaps he is relying on remorselessly rising traffic congestion, coupled with draconian parking controls, to do the job for him.

What he does say is that allowing private operators to run their own trains in competition with British Rail will stimulate better service and lower fares. As regards freight, he may be right. But putative investors in the London, Tilbury and Southend Railway will hardly be encouraged by the thought that the higher fares which £350 million-worth of upgrading might justify could be slashed at the stroke of a Citizen's Charter.

The author is consultant editor of Railway Gazette.



...and moreover  
ALAN COREN

Early this morning as I lay in that snug stupor between sleep and waking, a policeman called. He had a warrant for my arrest.

The charge was that on July 27, 1956, while occupying a one-and-ninety-nine seat at the Odeon, Southgate, I did wilfully cause my uninvited fingers to steal surreptitiously along the seat beside mine and attempt to enclose the right shoulder of Miss Christine Lumsden, 17, a spinner of that parish. On attempting to shake the offending hand off, Miss Lumsden was told that not only had one-and-ninety-nine been forked out on her behalf, but that a quarter-pound bag of Malters had been purchased into the bargain, and it was not much of a bargain if the purchaser was not going to be allowed to put his tongue in anybody's ear. Miss Lumsden then left the cinema abruptly, without learning whether it was Dermot Walsh who strangled the pawnbroker, or Sydney Taffer, a toss which, to this day, still caused her distress every time she thought about it.

I mopped my brow, and asked the policeman why Miss Lumsden had waited 35 years to prefer charges. He replied that it was only last week that she had, when unwrapping her evening haddock, discovered that I wrote for an influential newspaper, and it had been borne in upon her that the public had the right to know that it was being button-holed by the Odeon Ripper. He could not, of course, comment

on the alleged offence, but he did not mind saying that Miss Lumsden had struck him as a determined lady, sorry, woman, who would not rest until I had been (a) fired, and (b) slammed.

In the event, I got off lightly. The policeman dematerialised. I slid out of bed, and by the second cup of coffee, the Ghost of Legislation Yet To Be was little more than a grim memory pulsing very faintly behind my temple. But it was a little more like all such memory visions. A Sexual Carol was clearly the offer of a chance to change my ways before I am overtaken by laws which few can doubt are imminent. If that is it, it is not already too late, for who can be sure he will not be called to account for charges he did not realise he was incurring?

An affy crux, this. Because while sexual harassment may well reach levels which deserve to be recognised as criminal, how in the normal concourse of events can we be certain that it is the level they have reached? If the current Washington shenanigans are anything to go by, it seems to depend on whether, to the victim, it felt like a crime.

I may have problems with this. I shall do my best to change my ways, but I have no clear idea of how to change them. They have never seemed to me particularly bad ways, but who knows how they seemed to their victims? We need not address those ancient advances which, repulsed, reorganised for a second

and shy, in the days before persistence was seen as harassment, because I have been hors de combat for some decades now, but what of all those other little bits of business deployed to breach the sexual frontier in what I believed was all innocence?

Like Judge Thomas, I have used foul language in female company, and told foul jokes; foolishly, I thought it betokened the opposite of sexist bigotry, not excluding but including, I too have been a boss, appointing women to senior positions because they were the best candidates, and sometimes thereafter hugging them if they did well or felt bad, since that was also how I treated their male colleagues. I have never shrunk from telling a woman she looked terrific. I have strewn my chit-chat with "loves" and "darlings", I have mustered such tactical roughness as I could with shop assistants and meter maids in the hope of advantage. I have made much eye contact across many crowded rooms and not invariably eschewed the leer; I have filled my wake, unwittingly, with victims. And I do not know what to do, now.

There is no line of H.L. Menckens's I cherish more than his epitaph: "If, after I depart this vale, you ever remember me and have thought to please my ghost, forgive some sinner and wink your eye at some homely girl." Should I do the one, can you find it in your hearts to do the other?

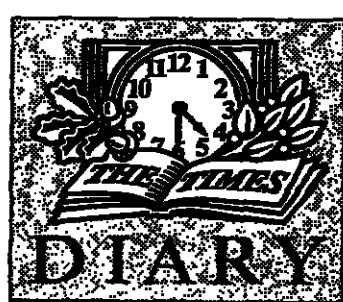
## Two extra tickets

THE Commonwealth heads of government, meeting in Harare for their bi-annual jamboree, can expect some tough questioning this week from an unusual source. Two 17-year-old British schoolgirls have been invited to attend the key conference sessions alongside prime ministers, presidents and royals.

Anthea Dolman from Hampshire and Elizabeth Heston from North Yorkshire have flown out to Harare as joint winners of an essay competition organised by London's Commonwealth Institute. They are due to meet John Major, Robert Mugabe, the Queen and other heads of state from the 50 nations represented.

All the delegates can expect a grilling. To get to Harare the girls had to tackle an essay subject worthy of a Times leader: "How should the Commonwealth respond to the changing situation in South Africa?" Both came up with trenchant answers that will find much resonance among Commonwealth leaders. "Nothing less than a one man one vote system with equal rights for all races is acceptable," wrote Elizabeth. Her entry scored for its "thoughtfulness and an abiding curiosity". Anthea's entry was commended for its "mature social conscience" and her grasp of "aid, debt and trade".

During their stay in Harare the two girls are under the wing of Stephen Cox, the director-general of the Commonwealth Institute, which will publish their analysis of the summit on their return. Yesterday Anthea, still sleepy from the long flight, said: "We've so far only driven round Harare and been to and from the Conference Centre. I've not yet had a chance to



ask any questions, but I am particularly looking forward to meeting John Major. One question I'm going to ask is about the future of the Commonwealth." She will not be the only one interested in the reply.

After Malcolm Rifkind enraged British Rail by throwing out their preferred route for the Channel tunnel rail link, it is a surprise to learn that the secretary of state has apparently washed his hands of all responsibility for the next step. In a little-noticed exchange during this week's Commons statement, Rifkind was asked by the Labour MP Kate Hoey: "Who is now in charge of this project?" Rifkind replied: "Any questions on this matter... should be put to British Rail."

## Jargon on the ball

WITH all four home nations playing tonight in soccer's European championship, a welcome insight into the problems of football hooliganism comes from the latest issue of *The Sociological Review*. If you thought that riotous behaviour was simply a matter of ill-mannered loutishness, think again.

According to Richard Giulianotti, of Aberdeen University, hooliganism has two "behavioural discursive meanings". If terrace terrorism is not "affective ma-

chismo", those putting the boot in are probably expressing their "instrumental gregariousness".

Either way, it seems, the hooligans are "secreting the embarrassing obnoxious signifiers of the original sub discourse during social interaction". And to think that British clubs were banned from Europe for that.

## Cheers, minister

THE party held at the defence ministry and this week condemned by the National Audit Office is only the tip of the iceberg. Government spending on entertainment is running at more than £10 million a year.

The Foreign Office is easily the biggest spender, largely because it foots the bill for entertaining by embassies around the world. The most recent figures, issued in

Ministers of the Crown... and Anchor



see

At the Department of the Environment in 1989-90, the figure was a much more modest £83,500. But the problems of the poll tax have clearly meant long nights of beer and sandwiches for ministers, officials and their guests. The figure for 1990-91 soared to £145,000.

In a written answer in June, John Major said the cost of official hospitality met by the prime minister's office during 1989-90 was £27,427. That, of course, was under his predecessor. Major's Treasury training has held him in good stead: the figure is estimated to fall to £20,904 in 1991-2.

But not all ministers are big spenders. The Whitehall thrifty housekeeper's award goes to the arts minister, Tim Renton, for spending just £2,890 on entertaining in 1990-91.

Hollywood is having trouble casting its Gulf war epic. The problem is that no one wants to play the role of Saddam Hussein, even on film. The latest star to turn down the part is Omar Sharif. He would not even "contemplate thinking about it".

## Playtime

WHY is Arthur Miller play *The Ride Down Mount Morgan* currently previewing at Wyndhams in the West End, having its world premiere in London and not in New York? One understandable reason might be that with Broadway bursting at the seams with musicals, the American audience for serious plays has been driven away.

But, Miller told a packed audience during a question-and-answer session at the Royal National Theatre this week, there was one overriding reason. "Like most important decisions," he said with a gentle shrug, "it was made because it was 5 o'clock."















A sparkling new international exhibition centre opens in London tomorrow to challenge its European rivals. Derek Harris reports

# Courting the crowds and raising the roof

London's international credibility as a place to hold front-rank trade fairs and exhibitions takes a £100 million leap forward tomorrow when the Princess of Wales officially opens Earls Court 2, adjacent to the existing Earls Court exhibition hall.

The new hall, with a barrel-vaulted roof giving a pillarless 17,000 sq m of sweeping space large enough to accommodate four jumbo jets, is the biggest construction of its type in the capital since before the second world war.

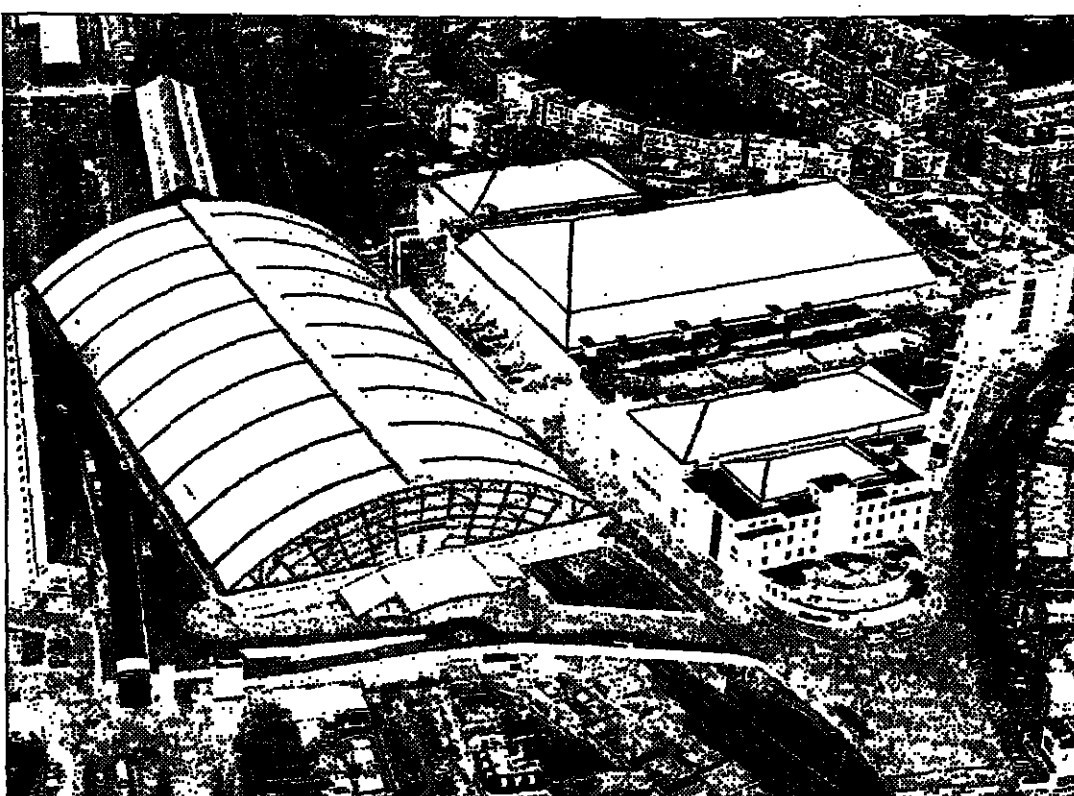
It means the two Earls Court halls, which can be linked for big exhibitions, together with the 100-year-old Olympia hall less than ten minutes walk away, offer a total of 100,000 sq m of exhibition space at the heart of the capital. Earls Court Olympia is the exhibitions arm of the shipping group P&O, which also has extensive construction and property interests.

The Earls Court expansion puts London firmly among the leaders in Europe as a home for exhibitions, running probably equal to Milan but behind Paris and much further behind Germany's front-runners — the big show centres of Hannover, Frankfurt, Cologne and Munich.

Most exhibitions generate a circus-style bounce and glitter where a degree of hype seems nothing more than normal. Hence the recession and its effects tend to be described by positive-thinking leaders of the industry as, at worst, "a temporary downward blip".

David Fasken, the chairman of the Exhibition Industry Federation and deputy chairman of Earls Court Olympia, says that while some sectors may have suffered, there have been signs of improvement. Attendance at the last boat show at Earls Court in January, for instance, was up 12 per cent and last month the junior fashion exhibition saw visitor volumes up 3 per cent.

Two of the top show organisers, Blenheim and Reed group's Reed Exhibition Company, say their detailed returns indicate a likely attendance growth for the industry so far this year of at least 3 per cent



Spectacular shows have become the hallmark of the Earls Court Olympia halls. Some of them are already traditional events, such as show jumping at Olympia and the Royal Tournament at Earls Court. More recently, world championship boxing and ice-skating have joined the line-up at Earls Court. Torvill and Dean drew audiences averaging 10,000 at each of their 17 performances, while Billy Graham's preaching has brought 27,000 in a single night. Opera has been introduced

with aplomb and impact over the past three years, starting with *Aida*, which had a cast of 600 in the summer of 1988. It was followed by *Carmen* 12 months later and then *Tosca* this summer, starring Julia Migenes and Ingrid Wixell (pictured right). The last two operas were organised by Harvey Goldsmith and the IMG management group. The stunningly staged *Tosca*, with audiences of 11,000, had a cast of 500 plus animal extras that included horses and sheepdogs.



and probably more. Certainly the federation's latest survey of the industry's performance just published shows that last year was remarkably vigorous despite the recession.

The survey nevertheless warns: "Maintaining such an impressive performance in the even more troubled times of 1991 will be hard, though the industry will certainly use all its considerable skill and energy to do so."

Earnings last year were more than £1.4 billion, almost a 5 per cent rise on the previous year and

11 per cent above the level in 1988, the first year in which the federation conducted its annual survey. Last year about £200 million of the earnings came from overseas.

The survey tracks exhibitions at venues of at least 2,000 sq m capacity. It logged 779 exhibitions during 1990, a 12 per cent increase on the previous year. There was a 10 per cent rise in space occupied.

This greater activity was reflected in spending by exhibitors, which at £901 million was almost 13 per cent up on the previous year. Trade exhibitions accounted

for much of the spending, with agricultural shows alone accounting for £65 million in exhibitor spending.

However, some weakness showed up in the number of visitors going to the events, a reduction to 9.16 million compared with the 1989 peak through the turnstiles of 10.65 million, although the 1990 total was higher than that in 1988. The main trend was for fewer members of the public to go to consumer shows.

Spending by visitors was squeezed. In 1989 they spent £537 million, which last year drifted 6 per cent down to £502 million, although overseas visitors spent more, held up better and accounted for about a quarter of the total.

Mr Fasken predicts a number of the bigger exhibitions growing now more hall space is available. The last boat show was able to expand by using a completed section of Earls Court 2.

Motorfair, the London motor show, is using Earls Court 2 this

week as well as the original hall, promising record attendances.

Recessionary effects might be expected to show up most in sectors such as furnishing and fabrics which have suffered the longest from declines in consumer demand. Certainly with the electronics industry hit by cuts in defence spending there are likely to be cutbacks and already two exhibitions — NEPCON and British Electronics Week — have been merged.

However, Phil Soar, the chief executive of Blenheim, points to

the way clothing exhibitions have been unaffected. Exhibitions can be a powerful trading method and are appreciated as such, he explained, adding: "You have to see clothes. And there is an enormous potential range of suppliers whose wares you can see under one roof and at one time."

Mr Fasken sees steady exhibition growth in Britain during the 1990s. He also believes that even more space will be needed because of the increased activity that the single European market is expected to bring.

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**TV VARIATION**  
**ANGIA**  
 10.15pm 10.15pm 10.15pm  
**BORDER**  
 10.15pm 10.15pm 10.15pm  
**CENTRAL**  
 10.15pm 10.15pm 10.15pm  
**GRANDMAN**  
 10.15pm 10.15pm 10.15pm  
 ...



**6.00 CeeFax 6.30 Breakfast News**  
**9.05 Kilroy.** Robert Kilroy-Glik chairs a studio discussion on grandparent's rights 9.50 *Hot Chefs*. Gary Rhodes continues his series on British cooking and prepares apple fritters  
**10.00 News**, regional news and weather 10.05 *Playdays*. For the very young (r) 10.25 *The Family News*. Cartoon adventures (r)



Memory man: Cliff Michelmore rolls back the years (10.35am)

**10.35 Happy Memories.**  
 ● CHOICE: The autumn daytime offensive on BBC1 means a return for this friendly nostalgia show, now extended to 25 minutes. It is hosted by the TV veteran Cliff Michelmore and Wendy Gibson, who is too young to have heard of Sir Mortimer. She has been asked to bring down the average age of the audience. The format is simple. Viewers send in golden moments from their past and ask for a piece of music. Up pops Dame Vera Lynn in an old black and white clip. Getting out of the studio, Wendy goes to the Lake District for a chat with cook John Tovey about his days as a theatrical impresario. Cliff's party piece is a selection of funny moments from *Tonight*. He even goes into the "I remember when you could get a pint of beer for 6p" routine.

**11.00 News**, regional news and weather 11.05 *No Kidding*. Mike Smith and Kate Copstick with another round of the family quiz game 11.30 *People Today*. Miffy Stoppard and Miffy Mowbray discuss motherhood; and Russell Grant consults the stars. Includes news and weather at 12.00. 12.25 *Pebbles*. Judy Spens is joined by writer Germaine Greer. Music is provided by Chris Culloway 12.55 *Regional news and weather*

**1.00 One O'Clock News and weather**  
**1.30 Neighbours.** (CeeFax) (r) 1.50 *Four Squares* (s)  
**2.15 Starkey and Hatch.** Concluding episode of a two-part drama. The police carrier is still at large and Hutch is only hours from death. Starring David Soul and Paul Michael Gleason (r). (CeeFax)

**3.00 Pot Black.** The final of the one-time tournament brings together Steve Davis and Stephen Hendry  
**3.50 Dooby's Duck Train.** Cartoon series (r) 3.55 *Orville and Cuddles*. Cartoon 4.00 *F.L.P.* Comedy series starring Howard Law Lewis and Claire Towner 4.30 *The Chaps*. Cartoon 4.35 *Heartbeat*. Tony Hart and Gabriella Bradshaw with more innovative approaches to drawing. This week's theme is trains

**5.00 Newsround 5.10 Byker Grove.** The last episode of the children's drama set in a youth centre in north-east England (r). (CeeFax)  
**5.35 Neighbours (r).** (CeeFax) (s). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster 5.50 *Six O'Clock News* with Anne Ford and Andrew Harvey. Weather 6.30 *Regional news magazines*. Northern Ireland: Neighbours

**7.00 News.** Tonight's guests include Morton Downey Jr, Pierre Grunberg and the Glaswegian band Texas (s)  
**7.30 Tomorrow's World.** Includes an item on combine harvesters guided by satellites; Bob Symes looks at inventions; and there is a final visit to London's King's College hospital clinic where pregnant women undergo pioneering treatment to save their babies. (CeeFax) (s). Northern Ireland: Spotlight

**8.00 Specials.** Live drama series following the private and public lives of five special constables in the Midlands. This week Leach and Shah discover a suspicious character in a parked car and Freddy is called by an old lady convinced that her birthday celebrations are turning into an "acid house" party. (CeeFax) (s)  
**8.50 Points of View** presented by Anne Robinson (s)  
**9.00 Nine O'Clock News** with Michael Buerk. (CeeFax) Regional news and weather

**9.30 Inside Story: The Nightbrider.** An investigation into the killing of Medgar Evers, a black civil rights leader, who was shot dead in Mississippi in 1963. A white supremacist, Byron de la Beckwith II, was charged with the murder but acquitted by an all-white jury. Christopher O'Leary's powerful film includes an interview with the volatile Beckwith and reveals that with Evers's wife pressing for a retrial, the case is by no means closed. (CeeFax) (s)  
**10.35 Sportsnight** introduced by Desmond Lynam. Highlights from five important European football championship qualifying matches - England v Turkey, Poland v the Republic of Ireland, Romania v Scotland, Germany v Wales and Northern Ireland v Austria

**12.35am Weather**

**6.00 News**  
**6.15 Westminster.** A round-up of yesterday's business in both houses  
**9.00 Daytime on 2: It Doesn't Have to Hurt 9.10 Questions 9.20 Quiz 9.30 News** 9.45 *You and Me* 10.00 *Thinkabout Science* 10.15 Search Out Science 10.35 Q and A 10.40 *Around Scotland* - the Clearances 11.00 Words and Pictures 11.15 English Time 11.35 Teaching Today 12.05 Quiz 12.15 *Postman Pat* 1.35 *Crystal Tipps* and 1.40 *Zig Zag*. Showbiz Technology

**2.00 News and weather** followed by *You and Me*. Series for four and five-year-olds (r) 2.15 *Medical Matters*. Ways of avoiding motion sickness 2.35 *Country File*. An investigation into the true cost of conservation (r)

**3.00 News and weather** followed by Westminster Live, introduced by Vivian White 3.50 *News*, regional news and weather  
**4.00 Famous Places.** Favourite Places. Benny Ory reveals his favourite places in the north of England

**4.10 Film: Out of the Fog (1941, b/w)** starring John Garfield, Ida Lupino and Eddie Albert. Stylized and atmospheric thriller about a gangster who terrorises an innocent Brooklyn family. Directed by Anatole Litvak

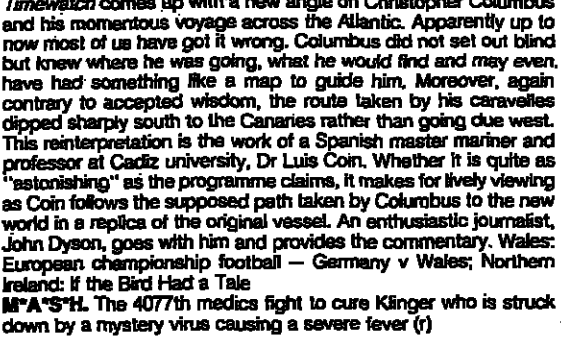
**5.30 A Question of Sport.** The start of the 21st series, presented by David Coleman. Joining Bill Beaumont and Ian Botham are Sandy Gurnell, Robin Smith, Dean Saunders and Duke McKenzie (r). (CeeFax) (s)

**6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation.** The Enterprise goes to the assistance of a colony of humans who are being threatened by a hostile race after illegally setting on another planet. (CeeFax)

**6.50 DEF** It begins with *Rosemary's Guide to the World's Journeys*. Magenta Vine and Sandra Guha travel from Mexico City to the coast 7.40 *Gimme 5*. Andrew Denton, Australia's answer to Ben Elton, investigates the comic side of anxiety

**8.10 Timewatch: The Columbus Conspiracy.**  
 ● CHOICE: Well in time for next year's 400th anniversary, *Timewatch* comes up with a new angle on Christopher Columbus and his momentous voyage across the Atlantic. Apparently up to now most of us have got it wrong. Columbus did not set out blind but knew where he was going, what he would find and may even have had something like a map to guide him. Moreover, again contrary to accepted wisdom, the route taken by his caravels slipped sharply south to the Canaries rather than going due west. This reinterpretation is the work of a Spanish master mariner and professor at Cadiz university, Dr Luis Colon. Whether it is quite as "astounding" as the programme claims, it makes for lively viewing as Colon follows the supposed path taken by Columbus to the new world in a replica of the original vessel. An enthusiastic journalist, John Dyson, goes with him and provides the commentary. Wales: European championship football - Germany v Wales; Northern Ireland: the Bird Had a Tale

**9.00 M\*A\*S\*H.** The 407th medical flight to cure Klinger who is struck down by a mystery virus causing a severe fever (r)



Old friends: Harriet Walter and Bill Nighy meet again (9.25pm)

**9.25 The Men's Room.** Episode four of a five-part dramatisation of Ann Oakley's novel about adultery among university folk during the Thatcher decade. It is two years since Mark has seen Charity - will absence make the heart grow fonder? Starring Harriet Walter and Bill Nighy. (CeeFax) Wales: 10.05-10.30 *M\*A\*S\*H* (r)

**10.15 Fifth Column.** Yugoslav-born Chris Ciolek gives his verdict on the troubles in his country

**10.30 Newsnight** presented by Jeremy Paxman

**11.15 The Late Show.** Kirsty Wark chairs a discussion on the results of the TV franchise race due to be announced this morning (s) Wales: The Men's Room 12.05am Fifth Column 12.20 The Late Show; Northern Ireland 11.55-12.45am: *Timewatch*

**11.55 Weather**

**6.00 TV-am.**  
**9.25 Jeopardy!** Steve Jones with the quiz in which he supplies the answers and the contestants have to provide the questions 9.55 *Thames News and weather*

**10.00 The Time . . . the Place.** Mike Scott hosts a topical discussion from Birmingham

**10.40 The Evening.** Family magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. With advice on video recording from photographer Terry O'Neill and on emotional matters by Denise Robertson. With national and international news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55 followed by national weather

**12.10 Allsorts.** Children's entertainment (s)  
**12.30 News** with John Suchet. Weather 1.10 *Thames News and weather*

**1.20 Home and Away.** Australian family drama series. (Oracle) 1.50 *A Country Practice*. Medical drama series set in the Australian outback (s)

**2.20 Take the High Road.** Soap set in the Scottish Highlands 2.50 *Give Us a Cue.* Celebrity charades chaired by Michael Parkinson. Lionel Blair and Liza Goddard are joined by Marti Caine, Kenny Everett, Roger Kitter, Mary Parkinson, Jimmy Tarbuck and his daughter Lisa (s)

**3.15 ITN News** 3.20 *Thames News* headlines 3.25 *The Young Doctors*. Australian medical drama

**3.55 Grobbles (s)** 4.15 *Rolf's Cartoon Club*. Rolf Harris admires the work of animators Mike Jiff and Osbert Parker. His guest is Tessa Sanderson



On her bike: Haydn Gwynne plays the time traveller (4.40pm)

**4.40 Time Riders.** Smashing new series for children, written by Jim Eddies of radio's *King Street* journal and starring Haydn Gwynne as an unorthodox young scientist who rides a motorbike and experiments with a time machine

**5.10 Bobsabouts.** Quiz-game for teenagers, presented by Bob Johnson

**5.40 News** with Carol Barnes. (Oracle) Weather  
**5.55 Thames Help.** Jackie Sprackley with advice on home income plans  
**6.00 Home and Away (s)**. (Oracle)

**6.30 Times Newsnight** 6.55 *News* 7.00 *Thames News* 7.10 *This is Your Life*. The first of a new series of the potted biography programme, presented by Michael Aspel (s)

**7.30 Coronation Street.** (Oracle)  
**8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight.** The indestructible Des returns with his musical entertainment show. Among tonight's guests is singer Beverley Craven (s)

**9.00 Film: Deadly Pursuit (1989)** starring Sidney Poitier, Tom Berenger and Kirstie Alley. Polished if overlong thriller about an FBI agent (Poitier) who teams up with a hiking guide (Berenger) in a hunt for a killer in the Canadian mountains. Directed by Roger Spottiswoode (continues after the news). (Oracle) (s)

**10.00 News** at Ten with Julia Somerville and Trevor McDonald. (Oracle) Weather 10.30 *Thames News* and weather

**10.40 Film: Deadly Pursuit** (continues) 11.00 *News* 11.15 *Rugby World Cup*. Frank Bough with reports from the camps of the eight countries who have reached the quarter-finals

**12.15am Film: Ghost Story (1991)** starring Fred Astaire, in his last film role, Douglas Fairbanks Jr, John Houseman and Melvyn Douglas. Four elderly friends meet to swap ghost stories but are unnerved by memories from their past. Despite the distinguished cast, it is a less than frightening affair. Directed by John Irvin

**2.15 America's Top Ten** 2.30 *News* 2.40 *Videofashion*. Italian style  
**3.10 Quiz Night.** Inter pub and club competition  
**3.40 Books by My Bedside.** The current reading matter of Sir John Harvey-Jones, star of the BBC's *Trueblood* 3.55 *Motorcycle Special*. The British sidecar motor-cycle grand prix 4.40 *Pity Years* On (b/w). Archive newsreels from October 1941

**5.00 Witness to Survival.** More courageous feats performed by ordinary members of the public  
**5.30 ITN Morning News** with Phil Roman

**6.00 Channel 4 Daily 8.25 Schools**  
**12.00 The Parliament Programme** presented by Anne Perkins  
**12.30 Business Daily 1.00 Sesame Street**

**2.00 Faith, Hope and Charity.** The first of a ten-part series on the world's leading religions. The afternoon Ronald Eyre examines the idea of God with Dr Ruth Page, a Christian, and the Most Venerable Pandit Vajrasana, a Buddhist (s)



Shooting a line: William Powell with Jean Harlow (2.30pm)

**2.30 Film: Libeled Lady (1936, b/w).**  
 ● CHOICE: The plot of *Libeled Lady* is far too complicated for a small space so here is a concise version. Spence in the 1930s is a newspaper editor about to marry Jean Harlow. But he is forced to postpone the wedding when he libels millionaire's daughter, Myrna Loy. When Loy sues, Tracy engages ladykiller William Powell to compromise her. There are more twists to come, some of them, admittedly, predictable. But the pleasures of the film, one of the best screwball comedies of the 1930s, transcend any bad plot. They start with the script, a sharp and witty affair involving three writers, Maurice Watkins, George Oppenheimer and Howard Emmett Rogers. The four stars are in sparkling form, none more than Jean Harlow whose wisecracks cut like a knife. Jack Conway, a director who deserves to be better remembered, misses the ingredients subtlety and ensures a furious pace throughout

**4.20 The Characters.** Animation 4.30 *Fifteen-to-One*  
**5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show.** The tragic story of two Florida babies accidentally switched at birth 5.55 *Willo the Wisp*. Cartoon

**6.00 Kate and Allie.** American comedy series  
**6.30 Saturday Night Takeaway.** Includes an interview with Jeremy Irons on the set of his new film *Waterland*

**7.00 Channel 4 News** with Jon Snow and Zainab Badawi. (Teletext) Weather

**7.50 Party Political Comment** from a Labour party politician  
**8.00 Brookside.** Drama serial set in a Merseyside close. (Teletext) (s)  
**8.30 Wings Over the Rift.** A survival documentary following Dr Colin Pennycuik, a gliding expert and a leading authority on bird flight as he joins vultures over the plains of the Serengeti and the Rift Valley's lakes and mountains (r)

**9.00 Dispatches.** An investigation into the use of perchloroethylene, commonly known as perc, in the dry cleaning industry. There is evidence that perc leads to illnesses such as nausea, headaches, birth defects and cancer

**9.45 Travelogue Shorts.** Simon Hoggart visits Savannah, Georgia  
**10.00 The Golden Girls.** Delicious comedy about the four Miami matrons

**10.30 Paul Merton - The Series.** A showcase for the comedian  
**11.00 Us: The Springers.**

● CHOICE: The second in the series on British immigrant families features the Springers, who arrived from Barbados in the 1950s. But the film is less about mum and dad; strict Christians who would not let their children go to the cinema, than the oldest son, Alan. A rebellious youth behind him, he teaches in a London comprehensive and enjoys the job. But he is angry at racism in Britain and a part of him would like to move back to the Caribbean, perhaps to start up in business. He manages to persuade his small daughter that his wife is doing well in marketing and is reluctant to be uprooted. Told entirely in the words of the participants, the film presents a heartening positive view of the immigrant community while not shirking the difficulties of the Springers in adapting to a sometimes hostile culture. White Britons are notable by their absence, though they are always there by implication

**11.45 Film: Devdas (1955, b/w).** The first of a season of Indian love stories from the Bombay film studios. This re-make of a 1935 film tells the story of the legendary hero and writer K. Chandraraj Chatterjee, known as Devdas, who is presented by his parents from marrying his childhood sweetheart because she comes from a lower caste. Directed by Bimal Roy. Ends at 2.50am

**11.55 News**

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**6.00 News**







## BUSINESS

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 16 1991

Business Editor  
John Bell● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 25-30  
● LAW REPORT 36  
● SPORT 36-40MPs ask  
for BCCI  
details

MPs on the Commons treasury and civil service committee complained yesterday to government officials about the lack of information about local authorities' deposits in the Bank of Credit and Commerce International.

Scottish officials told the committee that Western Isles council lost £23 million; Banff and Buchan district council £2 million; Ross and Cromarty district council £1.8 million; and Clackmannan district council £700,000.

## Chemist surges

Lloy's Chemists reported taxable profits up 53 per cent to £20.8 million for the year to end-June and earnings up 21 per cent to 22.5p. The final dividend rises from 2p to 3p, making 4.17p (2.78p).

Temps, page 28

## N Brown up

Pre-tax profits for the six months to end-August at N Brown, the mail order group, rose 9.4 per cent to £6.03 million. The interim dividend rose 6.1 per cent to 1.75p. The shares rose 5p to 263p.

Temps, page 28

## Cheval companies

In an article on October 14 "Dubai directors on Hanson boards", we stated that Cheval Holdings (UK), Cheval Holdings Inc, Oak Stables, Cheval Property Management, Gainsborough Stud Management, FG Management, FG Management Services and the Maktoum family had links with Hanson plc and its subsidiaries. We now accept that these companies and the Maktoum family are not linked to Hanson plc and its Cheval subsidiaries and that no Maktoum family representative sits on any Hanson plc board. We deeply regret these errors.

## THE POUND

US dollar

1.7040 (-0.0145)

German mark

2.9138 (+0.0018)

Exchange index

90.2 (-0.2)

Bank of England official

base (4pm)

## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share

19735 (-0.1)

FT-SE 100

2576.7 (+2.2)

New York Dow Jones

3027.50 (+8.05)

Tokyo Nikkei Ave

24307.65 (+446.98)

## MAJOR CHANGES

RISERS:

Hammerman 'A'

602 1/2p (+8p)

Burnish Castrol

523p (+18p)

Enterprise

314 1/2p (+15p)

LASMO

527 1/2p (+12p)

Shell

655p (+18p)

Rank Org

781p (+14p)

Reuters

192 1/2p (+10p)

Smithline Beecham

623 1/2p (+7p)

Whessex

351p (+7p)

Broken Hill

583p (+12p)

Midwest Bank

323 1/2p (+7p)

Nat Aust Bank

351p (+7p)

FALLS:

Laporte

583p (-13p)

Amersham

381p (-8p)

Tunif

23p (-7p)

Steeltek

275 1/2p (-7p)

Redland

628p (-8p)

RMC Group

580 1/2p (-10p)

Lloyds Abbey

401p (-11p)

AIM

167 1/2p (-16p)

Closing Prices...Page 30

## INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 10 1/4%

3-month interbank 10 1/4%-10 1/2%

3-month eligible bills 10 1/4%-10 1/2%

US: Prime Rate 8%

Federal Funds 5 1/4%

3-month Treasury bills 4.98-4.97%

30-year bonds 10 1/2%-10 3/4%

## CURRENCIES

London:

New York:

£ \$1.7025

DM £1.7115

SwF £1.4835

S ¥175.8300

¥ ¥113.20

Index: 90.2

Index: 84.9

ECU 0.703306

SDR 0.70

ECU 1.421856

E SDR 1.4

London forex market close

## GOLD

London Fixing:

AM \$338.60 pm \$337.55

close \$337.60 \$338.10 (\$210.00)

210.50

New York:

Comex \$380.45 \$380.25

## RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 134.6 September (1987=100)

\* Denotes midday trading price

## NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Nov) \$22.65 bbl (\$22.40)

## ★★★★★

## Sharp drop worries City economists

Lamont firm  
on recovery  
as output falls

By COLIN NARBOROUGH AND ANATOLE KALETSKY

NORMAN Lamont, the Chancellor, stuck firmly to his view that the recession in Britain's manufacturing industry is over in the face of an unexpectedly sharp fall in output during August.

"We have always said it would be a modest and gradual recovery and the figures are consistent with this," he said. "At this point in the economic cycle you often get statistics pointing in different directions. You get some pointing up, then a few pointing down."

Comparing the latest three months with the three months before, industrial production was up by 1.5 per cent and manufacturing was up marginally by 0.1 per cent, he noted.

Mr Lamont refused to be drawn on when he expected growth to accelerate or what

he might do if the economy continued to stall. "Two months of industrial production going up and one month falling is consistent with the recession bottoming out and the economy moving into recovery," he said.

But his confident remarks at the International Monetary Fund meeting in Bangkok failed to impress City economists, who were mainly concerned about the very slow recovery foreshadowed by yesterday's figures.

Industrial output, after adjustment for seasonal factors, fell by a provisional 1.5 per cent in August, instead of the small rise forecast, after an 0.3 per cent drop in July. Overall industrial output was buoyed by oil and gas production in the North Sea, which has started to return to more normal levels after a long period of disruption caused by safety and maintenance pro-

grammes. Manufacturing, widely seen as a better guide to the health of the economy, was hit badly by a dramatic decline in motor vehicle output, which dropped to its lowest since early 1987. This was the main factor behind a 1.1 per cent fall in manufacturing in August that more than cancelled out the revised 0.5 per cent rise in July.

The Central Statistical Office estimate of the underlying trend in manufacturing showed it declining at an annual rate of 2 per cent, unchanged from July. CSO statisticians said it "still appears as if the decline in manufacturing output since the spring of 1990 may have halted".

Comparing the latest three months with the previous three, manufacturing showed a tiny 0.1 per cent increase, but remained 5.7 per cent below the same period last year.

Total industrial output on this basis was up 1.5 per cent over the latest three months, but 3.3 per cent below what it was a year before.

On the inflation front, the figures were more encouraging, pointing to a further subsidence in upward pressures on prices in September.

The rise in factory gate prices charged by manufacturers on domestic sales slowed from an annual 5.7 per cent in August to a provisional 5.6 per cent in September, the lowest since March last year.

Excluding food, drink and tobacco, the increase in output prices slowed from an annual 4.9 per cent to 4.7 per cent, the lowest since mid-1988.

After seasonal adjustment, the output data indicated a slight acceleration in underlying producer prices, but analysts saw this as little cause for concern.

Prices paid for fuel and raw materials dropped an annual 3.1 per cent in September, heavily distorted by the effect of the Gulf tension on oil prices last year. In August, the annual drop was just 0.8 per cent.

Although the producer price figures point to lower retail inflation ahead, the effect is only felt after a lag of up to six months.

Moral support, page 27

Comment, page 27

World Bank must  
change, says US

FROM ANATOLE KALETSKY IN BANGKOK

AMERICA is demanding a fundamental reform in the World Bank's constitution and method of operation — to permit it to lend directly to the private sector — a change that most of the bank's other shareholders, including Britain, are understood to oppose.

Nicholas Brady, the US Treasury secretary, yesterday insisted that the bank change its articles of association to enable this. The bank can lend at present only to member governments or entities that governments guarantee.

Other bank shareholders and management have consistently opposed the suggestion of lending directly to the private sector, arguing that it would weaken the bank's credit rating and constitute the most significant change in the bank's articles since it was established 45 years ago.

The bank has a separate subsidiary, the International Finance Corporation, which can deal directly with the private sector, buying and selling equities as well as lending to private companies.

Last summer, however, Washington insisted that the bank's board should review its entire policy towards the private sector, as a condition for approving a \$1 billion boost in the capital of the IFC.

Speaking yesterday to the bank's annual meeting in Bangkok, Mr Brady said that this review must result in changes in the articles of association that would permit direct private sector lending. "At stake is the relevance of the World Bank in support of economic development," he said.

Bank officials were shocked by the vehemence of Mr Brady's demand and said they expected Europe and the developing countries to oppose the American move.

"We believe the World Bank should support the private sector but its existing powers to do this are sufficient. We do not think an amendment to the articles is necessary," a British official said.

Moral support, page 27

Comment, page 27

## Asda set to name new chief



Norman: the favourite

ARCHIE Norman, the 37-year-old finance director of Kingfisher, is set to become the next chief executive of Asda, the supermarket group that has launched a rescue rights issue to shore up its balance sheet (Gillian Bowditch writes).

Neither Mr Norman nor Patrick Gillam, Asda's newly appointed chairman, was available for comment but reports of the appointment were gaining credence in the market.

Asda's shares rose 1p to 45p and Kingfisher's fell 4p to 544p.

Asda's rights issue will be approved at today's extraordinary general meeting in Leeds. Asda has received

enough proxy votes to ensure it goes ahead and the group has finalised negotiations with the banks on amendments to its loan covenants.

The share price is 10p ahead of the rights price but the issue does not close until November 8. Mr Norman's appointment as chief executive would lend a degree of credibility to the troubled group, which has been without a chief executive since John Hardman resigned in June.

Mr Norman was part of the three-man Paternoster team that bought into the old Woolworth's group and turned it into one of Britain's best-performing retailers.

Comment, page 27

## TV jitters as screens go blank

By MARTIN BARROW

THE London Stock Exchange moved swiftly to reassure investors that despite the partial failure of Topic, the exchange's on-screen information service, it can provide an orderly market in television shares when winners of the Channel 3 franchise auction are named today.

A restricted service was provided to Topic's 10,000-plus subscribers yesterday after a software fault developed in the link between Topic and the commercial company news service, through which the full text of company announcements is relayed to investors.

A makeshift service operated through the regulatory news service during the day, making available edited information considered to be price sensitive. Despite delays, the exchange said it had received no complaints from investors.

Engineers prepared to work through the night to trace the fault which appears

to have occurred in software installed late last year when the Stock Exchange upgraded Topic, launched in 1978, and introduced the regulatory service for rival systems such as Reuters and Exel.

Ironically the system collapsed in the week that two new competitive services are being offered. Reuters has launched UK Equity Focus, repackaging information already available to many of its existing subscribers into a format designed to appeal to Topic users. Quotron Systems, a subsidiary of Citicorp, is promoting Quotron Horizon which provides on-line prices, research and ten years of historical financial data.

Despite the assault, the Stock Exchange remains confident that it can maintain its market leadership. Although brokers agreed that yesterday's fault was little more than an inconvenience, approval for the system is far from universal. The exchange was

confident that a full Topic service will be restored today but contingency plans have been drawn up to cope with the huge volume of price-sensitive announcements that will follow the Independent Television Commission's declaration, probably at 10.30am. The 30 quoted companies affected are expected to make individual announcements once the implications of the ITC decisions have been assessed.

Given the likely activity in these companies' shares, the Stock Exchange has ruled that market makers' price displays on Seaq will be indicative only between 8.30am and the time of the ITC announcement. The indicative period may be extended after consultation with the companies involved. During the indicative period market makers will be obliged to make firm prices over the phone in not less than the normal size of the relevant security.



Back from Japan: Sir Alastair Morton, of Eurotunnel, which is seeking an injunction

## Citicorp and IBM plunge

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

CITICORP, America's largest bank, stunned Wall Street yesterday by suspending dividend payments, writing off \$930 million against bad loans and announcing a third-quarter loss of \$885 million.

The announcement, at lunchtime, caused immediate suspension of trading in its shares, which had been 37.5 cents up at 114 in the morning. Third-quarter results were much worse than analysts expected.

Earlier this year, John Reed, chairman, said he believed full-year earnings would cover the dividend, though it would be trimmed if that would help the bank's credit rating. Citicorp's dividend had already been cut from an annual \$1.78 to \$1 a share, which has now been cut.

For the past year, Citicorp, with \$17 billion worth of loans in the troubled commercial property market, has been trying to raise \$1 billion of fresh capital. Last April, it persuaded Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz, the Saudi prince, to invest \$800 million for what will become a 13 per cent stake and make him Citicorp's largest shareholder.

The bank also launched a \$1.5 billion cost-cutting programme that is now expected to mean the loss of almost 20,000 of its 95,000 staff.

Yesterday's figures show the bank lost \$2.72 per share in the third quarter, compared with a 56 cent per share loss in the same period a year ago. The total for the first nine months of this year shows some improvement, however, with losses falling from \$2.22 to \$1.36 per share.

Earlier, IBM, the world's largest computer maker, announced its profits were still plunging.

Announcing a near 85 per cent third-quarter profits drop yesterday, John Akers, IBM chairman, said the workforce

worldwide would fall by more than 20,000 this year.

IBM's \$2.3 billion cost cutting programme had expected 17,000 staff to volunteer to leave, but by the summer that figure was 20,000 and could increase further. In Britain, IBM employs 18,000, of a worldwide workforce of 373,000 at the end of last year.

An IBM spokesman said: "We won't know how many will go until the end of the year, but it is much more than we expected."

IBM profits for the three months ending September sank from \$1.1 billion to \$172 million after a further \$100 million was set aside for

severance pay. Total sales dropped 5.5 per cent to \$14.4 billion. In the first nine months of this year, sales dropped 7.1 per cent, but IBM plummeted \$1.4 billion into the red after making a \$3.6 billion profit for the same period a year ago.

Mr Akers blamed the global recession and price wars, but added: "Although business conditions remain unsettled, we expect improvement in the pace of our business as shipments of our new product line begin to build."

Wall Street wiped \$430 million off IBM's value, cutting 75 cents from the shares to \$100.50.

Comment, page 27

Tunnel  
group  
acts  
against  
TMLBy ROSS TIEMAN  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

EUROTUNNEL, the developer of the £8 billion Channel tunnel, has applied for an injunction against Transmanche Link, the contractors' consortium. Eurotunnel alleges that TML has threatened to stop work on the tunnel's cooling system. The injunction is intended to compel the contractors to carry on.

The application is expected to be heard by a judge in chambers tomorrow. The action comes amid a growing campaign by the contractors to extract £610 million of additional payments for the "lump sum" part of the tunnel construction from the developer. The ten-member Anglo-French contractors' consortium says changes in the tunnel specification have caused the cost of the lump-sum works, which include boring the tunnel and fitting the mechanical and electrical system, to almost double from the £620 million envisaged.

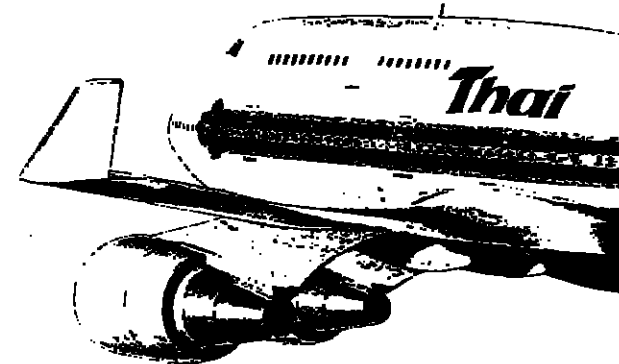
Eurotunnel insists TML has failed to substantiate its claims — a charge rejected by a senior TML executive as "absolute nonsense".

The contractors issued a statement this week in which they said they would take "all necessary steps to protect their interests". TML executives have privately acknowledged they are "economising where we can on the project". However, one officer said: "Contractors don't go on strike."

TML lawyers have been reviewing their contract with Eurotunnel to find ways of bringing more pressure to bear. The cooling system, designed to pump cold water through the tunnel to mitigate heat generated by the trains, was not part of the original lump sum contract concluded in 1987.

Eurotunnel insists the tunnel can open on June 15, 1993. TML believes operations cannot begin until late summer or autumn of 1993.

Sir Alastair Morton, chief executive of Eurotunnel, was returning from Japan last night, where he had been talking to worried investors.

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## British Gas lifts price to generators

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Gas yesterday increased the price of supplies for power stations and reduced the attractiveness of its terms after signing three more contracts with generators.

The changes in prices and terms, approved in advance by Ofgas, the regulator, signal that British Gas does not expect to have any further supplies of gas available for power stations before November 1996. Power station developers keen to begin operations before the end of 1996 will have to look to independent suppliers for their gas.

Since it was forced by Ofgas to make more supplies available for developers of gas-fired power stations on September 17, British Gas has contracted to supply five projects. National Power, Britain's biggest generating company, is seeking a judicial review of the terms on which gas was offered to the first two, Thames Power and Coryton, both Essex.

AES Medway, part of AES Electric of America, has con-

tracted for supplies for a power station generating up to 470 megawatts to be built on the Isle of Grain, Kent. Derwent Co-Generation, which is buying gas for a plant to be built near Derby, is sponsored by Mission Energy of America. The fifth contract is with Keadby Power, 51 per cent owned by Scottish Hydro-Electric, which plans a 670 megawatt power station on Humber-side.

The combined cost of the plants will exceed £1 billion. Together with the Thames and Coryton projects, they will consume 1.6 billion therms of gas a year, slightly more than the amount British Gas expected to have available in 1995 and 1996.

Under the latest bulk gas schedule, prices will be increased by an average of 0.9p a therm to range from 20.5p to 21.2p a therm. Since March, when British Gas first raised the price of power station supplies, prices have risen more than 25 per cent.

## St Ives drops 31% to £20.2m

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

ST IVES, the book, magazine and financial printing group, suffered a 31 per cent drop in pre-tax profit to £20.2 million in the year to August 2. Robert Gavron, the chairman, said trading conditions had been "the worst experienced in the company's history".

The recession hit in the last year of a five-year investment programme that cost £130 million, cutting turnover volume to less than 80 per cent of capacity. Employee numbers fell 400 to 3,100 and St Ives has cut £8 million from costs.

Mr Gavron said the group had integrated a series of acquisitions, cutting the number of sites from 30 to 21. Capital spending will halve after the re-equipment programme ends during the first half of the current year.

Mr Gavron said the group was well placed to profit from any economic upturn. "We are now where we want to be and want to settle down and make some money".

Tempos, page 28



"Worst conditions": Robert Gavron, the chairman

## S&P says Lloyd's fund is inadequate

By JONATHAN PRYNN

THE Lloyd's central fund, which guarantees that claims are met when names are unable to pay their losses, may not be adequate to meet the increasing demands on it, Standard & Poor's, the credit rating agency, said.

The fund currently stands at about £400 million, but Lloyd's has said it wants to boost it to £1 billion within three years. Additional subscriptions, however, would bring in only about £60 million from names this year, John Gardner, the managing director of Insurance Solvency International, a subsidiary of Standard & Poor's, said.

Mr Gardner was speaking at the launch of a new service for corporate and institutional buyers of insurance policies, which reports on the financial strength of individual Lloyd's syndicates. Subscribers to the new service will receive detailed financial analysis of more than 350 syndicates.

According to the Standard & Poor's analysis, the Lloyd's "balance sheet" showed a deficit of £1.25 billion last year, with assets of £10.04 billion and liabilities of £11.25 billion.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Paterson's net liquid balances steady

PATERSON Zochonis, the Cussons toiletries group, held net liquid balances of £112.8 million at May 31, against £122.4 million a year previously. The group made pre-tax profits for the year of £25.4 million, against £25 million. PZ is raising its final dividend from 7.4p to 8.25p a share, making 10.4p for the year, against 9.45p. The indications are that the results for the six months to November 30 will be slightly ahead of those achieved in the comparable period a year ago.

The group has made a £1.34 million provision as an extraordinary item to cover the closure costs of the Interparco subsidiaries in the Ivory Coast, Senegal and the Central African Republic. Cussons maintained its turnover and profits in Britain in a depressed and competitive market. Profits from Australia were lower.

### Frost to be relisted

FROST Group, the independent petrol retailer, finally unveiled plans to issue 19.5 million shares at 235p each, in a rare £45.9 million relisting of the group. The move means that Frost's petrol stations will be salvaged from Norfolk House Group, which went into administrative receivership in March. Frost owns 73 service stations.

### Cityvision warning

CITYVISION, the video rental chain, says profits for the second half to end-November are unlikely to match the £3.5 million first-half profits. The group has a strong cash flow from trading and remains in a net cash position, but while June was a good month, trading since has been disappointing, the company said. The shares fell by 7½p to 26½p.

### Elswick slides to £1m

INCREASED losses from the cycles division took their toll on profits at Elswick, the packaging to mowers and bicycles group. Pre-tax profits fell to £1.01 million in the six months to end-July, down from £1.51 million last time, despite sales up from £29.9 million to £31.9 million.

Reduced margins and reorganisation costs at the cycles division, which now represents less than 15 per cent of the group's business, led to substantially higher losses in spite of a marked increase in sales. Diluted earnings per share slid from 0.61p to 0.41p. The interim dividend is maintained at 0.22p. The shares firmed ½p to 9p.

### Another 140 jobs for NI

THE privately owned Ulster Carpet Mills is to build a £14.5 million extension to its two plants at Portadown, Co Armagh, which will add 140 jobs during the next three years to the workforce of about 600. UCM claims to be the world's third-largest producer of woven carpets, manufacturing 2 million square yards of Axminster and Wilton every year.

### Crossroads raises £2.1m

CROSSROADS Oil Group, the American oil and gas company quoted in London, is raising £2.1 million through a non-underwritten rights issue of one share for every five held at 28p each. Crossroads earned record net income of £296,000 (£16,000) in the six months to the end of September. It is establishing an American depository receipt facility.

### Finlan losses grow

FINLAN Group, the troubled property and glass trading company, reports increased pre-tax losses of £15.7 million (£8.26 million losses) for the year ended March 31. There is again no final dividend.

Finlan hopes to benefit in its current financial year from substantial savings that should arise from further reduction in overheads and lower interest costs. New preference shares are being issued to satisfy obligations to certain creditors. Finlan also proposes to change the conversion rights on its loan stock issue.

### Recession lowers Farnell

By JONATHAN PRYNN

FARNELL Electronics, Europe's second-largest distributor of electronic components and a manufacturer of power supplies, has announced a 17 per cent fall in first-half pre-tax profits from £15.9 million to £13.3 million for the six months to end-July.

The company said group sales, which fell 7 per cent to £81.8 million, were affected by the recession, particularly in the domestic market for capital goods.

Farnell Electronic Components produced profits at a similar level to the comparable period in the previous year. The overseas distribution subsidiaries continued to grow in line with expectations.

The figures include one month's contribution from ESD Distribution, which was bought for £61 million in July.

The manufacturing activities traded profitably during the period, despite lower demand from UK customers, and are "competitively primed" for the recovery.

The company moved into net debt during the first half as a result of recent acquisitions, but half-time borrowings of £17.5 million were less than expected. The acquisitions made a small contribution to pre-tax profits after financing costs. The company said all subsidiaries were managing the economic situation "satisfactorily" but it could see "little sign of improvement in current UK trading".

The interim dividend is raised from 2.5p to 2.6p.

### News Corp expects profit rise

From BRIAN BUCHANAN, IN SYDNEY

THE News Corporation expects to report a higher operating profit this financial year, said Richard Seabury, the deputy chairman. He also said after the company's annual general meeting in Adelaide yesterday that News Corp could pay the remaining US\$2 billion short-term debt owed to its bankers from operating cash flow.

News Corp must repay \$800 million to its lenders by next February and three half-yearly instalments of \$400 million by June 1993, as part of a debt-restructuring negotiated earlier this year. Mr Seabury said the February payment was already covered and no more asset sales were expected this year.

An equity issue "was not on the agenda", but the option was "always open to review. But it's no more under review now than at any time." Mr Seabury stood in at the meeting for Rupert Murdoch, the chairman and chief executive, who was in the United States on business.

Mr Seabury told shareholders that News Corp did not expect "any significant upsurge" in revenues while depressed economic conditions continue. He said economies by the group were expected to show in the bottom line and "to place the company, leaner, more efficient and with improved margins and better products, in a strong position for the future".

# British Gas introduces changes to the LT13 Schedule for Contract Gas Customers

With effect from 15th October 1991 British Gas introduces changes to its LT13 Schedule printed below.

BRITISH GAS plc. CONTRACT GAS PRICING SCHEDULE LONG TERM INTERRUPTIBLE GAS	
REF: LT13	Effective: 15th October 1991
(1) Introduction	
<p>This Revised Schedule LT13 supersedes LT12 and Schedule LT13 effective 1<sup>st</sup> September 1991 in respect of all Long Term Interruptible Gas contracts entered into from 15th September 1991.</p> <p>Under Section 14(4) of the Gas Act 1986 British Gas may enter into special agreements (contracts) with Customers for the supply of gas through pipes to premises which they own or occupy on the prices and terms shown in this Schedule subject to the conditions of a standard contract entitled "Special Agreement for the Supply of Gas: Long Term Interruptible Gas" British Gas reserves its position as to whether to enter into contracts where it considers that to do so is not consistent with its overall duties under Section 9(1) of the Gas Act 1986. The prices and terms shown do not apply to back-up gas or to the other forms of supply identified in Condition 5 of British Gas' Authorisation.</p> <p>Copies of this schedule and conditions of contract are available from the Registered Office or Regional Head Offices of British Gas plc.</p>	
(2) Standard Terms of a Long Term Interruptible Gas Contract:	
<p>Gas will be supplied under a standard contract, on the basis that the supply is taken for not less than 10 and not more than 15 Contract Years to a Customer wishing to consume gas at premises in its ownership or occupation at which its Nominated Consumption of gas must be in excess of 50 million therms per Contract Year at the premises. Each Customer (including its affiliate companies) see note 10) is limited to a maximum of 525 million therms Nominated Consumption in aggregate under this Schedule and any previous Long Term Interruptible schedules, which is equivalent to a maximum actual consumption of 63<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> million therms.</p> <p>The earliest start date is 1st October 1990 and the latest start date is 30 September 1997" (see note 5).</p> <p>Under the standard contract terms the supply of gas will be interruptible for a minimum period of "x" days (see note 8) and a maximum period of 55 days in each Contract Year. The periods of interruption, which will occur at British Gas' discretion, may or may not be continuous.</p> <p>The Basic Scheduled Reference Price for all quantities of gas consumed under a Long Term Interruptible Gas contract will vary in accordance with the specific type of escalation terms chosen by the Customer. These choices are set out in Table 1.</p>	

TABLE 1 LONG TERM INTERRUPTIBLE GAS			
ESCALATION TYPE	A	B	C
INDEXATION	15 Gas Oil 15 Heavy Fuel Oil 35 PPI 35 Electricity or Coal	20 Gas Oil 20 Heavy Fuel Oil 30 PPI 30 Electricity or Coal	25 Gas Oil 25 Heavy Fuel Oil 25 PPI 25 Electricity or Coal
BASIC SCHEDULED REFERENCE PRICE (pence per therm)			
	21.30	20.70	20.50

(iii) Optional terms for a Long Term Interruptible Gas contract:

The following options are available in respect of which the Basic Scheduled Reference Price will be modified by the amount stated:

(a) Restricted Interruption Option.

While still retaining a maximum period of 55 days interruption in a Contract Year, the facility is offered to restrict periods of interruption to a maximum of 15 days in any continuous period of 30 days. The charges for this alternative are set out in Table 2.

TABLE 2 ADDITIONAL CHARGE FOR RESTRICTED INTERRUPTION			
ESCALATION TYPE	A	B	C
ADDITION TO BASIC SCHEDULED REFERENCE PRICE (p/therm)	1.0	1.0	1.0

(b) Price Phasing Option.

Provided the resulting price does not fall below 19.5 pence per therm, the Basic Scheduled Reference Price (Table 1) or its Restricted Interruption alternative (Table 2) may be modified by the pence per therm figures set out below or by any proportion of those pence per therm figures.

TABLE 3 PHASING MODIFICATIONS TO PRICE (p/therm)										
CONTRACT YEARS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10-15
OPTION 1	-1.5	-1.5	-1.5	-1.5	0	+1.5	+1.5	+1.5	+1.5	BASIC PRICE
OPTION 2	-1.25	-1.25	-1.25	-1.25	-1.25	+1.50	+1.50	+1.50	+1.50	BASIC PRICE

Appropriate proportions of the financial amounts arising from the application of such price phasing will be repayable to British Gas in the event of termination within the first ten Contract Years.

(iv) Price reduction for gas consumed in excess of 125 million therms per Contract Year.

Customers who have taken more than 125 million therms at any one premises under this Schedule in a period of one Contract Year will be given a reduction on the Basic Scheduled Reference Price including, if applicable, the options referred to in (iii) above, for gas consumed in excess of 125 million therms in that period. See Table 4 in next column.

TABLE 4 PRICE REDUCTIONS FOR EACH INCREMENTAL TRANCHE OF GAS CONSUMED IN A LONG TERM INTERRUPTIBLE CONTRACT		
TRANCHE	THERMS CONSUMED IN A CONTRACT YEAR	PERCENTAGE REDUCTION FOR EACH TRANCHE OF GAS CONSUMED
1	1 to 125,000,000	Nil
2	125,000,001 to 200,000,000	0.25
3	200,000,001 to 300,000,000	0.50
4	300,000,001 to 400,000,000	0.75
5	400,000,001 and thereafter	1.00

(v) Notes

1. Conditions of Contract

The notes given in this Schedule summarise elements of the standard conditions of a Long Term Interruptible Gas contract and the way in which they will be applied. They are not exhaustive and cannot take precedence over, or modify, any of the terms or conditions of the standard contract entered into by any individual Customer.

2. Annual Nominated Quantity of Gas

An annual nominated quantity of gas may be fixed for each Contract Year by the Customer within the range of plus or minus 10% of the Nominated Consumption, except that in the first Contract Year the range will be plus 10% minus 20% of the Nominated Consumption. The Customer shall take at least, or make a minimum payment for gas equivalent to, 80% of this annual nominated quantity. If the supply has been interrupted at the direction of British Gas, then an allowance will be given for the days interrupted in ascertaining the annual consumption for the purpose of minimum payment calculations.

3. Start Date

The Start Date is the date from which the Contract Years will run and the minimum payment obligations will apply, although British Gas and the Customer may agree that gas for commissioning may be taken prior to the Start Date.

4. Customer's Financial Status

Potential Customers will be required to evidence, prior to or within 6 months of signing the contract, to the reasonable satisfaction of British Gas that they have the financial capability to meet their contractual payment, indemnity and other obligations so as to sustain a Long Term Interruptible Gas contract. Evidence of satisfactory progress on associated planning, engineering and commercial agreements will be required before initial signing.

5. Pressure

The pressures at which British Gas supplies gas vary at different parts of the gas supply system. British Gas will supply gas to a Customer at a pressure above the statutory minimum level if this is available at the point of supply. For pressures up to 35 bar British Gas will use reasonable endeavours to maintain any such elevated pressure. If British Gas expects the supply pressure to reduce to a lower level permanently then not less than 30 months' written notice will be given.

6. Price of Gas

Under the contract the mechanism for determining the price of gas, in accordance with the specific escalation terms selected by the customer, shall be set out in a price indexation formula utilising indices which give effect to these escalation terms. Prices are Quarter 1 1990 prices.

7. Revision of Terms

The prices and other terms shown in this Schedule may be modified at the discretion of British Gas. These prices and other terms will not be altered within 28 days of any previous alteration without the consent of the Director General of Gas Supply (Ofgas). Customers should note that alterations to the prices and other terms may be put into effect immediately upon notification by British Gas. However, such alterations will not have effect on Customers who have entered into a contract under this Schedule prior to such modification.

8. Interruption

Without prejudice to the rights of British Gas to interrupt supplies of gas provided in accordance with this Schedule, the requirement for a minimum period of interruption shall be deemed to have been suspended unless and until at least three months have expired from the giving by British Gas of notice under the contract with the Customer of its intention to implement such minimum period of interruption.

9. Taxation

The prices in this schedule are exclusive of Value Added Tax or any other tax, duty or impost.

10. Affiliate Companies

For the purposes of determining maximum actual consumption under this LT13 Schedule "Affiliate" means: (a) any holding company or subsidiary company of the Customer or any company which is a subsidiary of such a holding company and the expressions "holding company" and "subsidiary company" shall have the meaning specified in Section 736 of the Companies Act 1985 (except that the words "a majority of" in Section 736(1)(a), (b) and (c) shall be replaced with the words "50 per cent or more of") or

(b) any company which controls a Customer or any company which is subject to control by a company which also controls a Customer using the definition of control set out in Section 416(2)(a), (b) and (c) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (except that the words "the greater part of" in those Sections 416(2), (a) (b) and (c) shall be replaced with the words "50 per cent or more of").

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## Last chance for educating Asda

### COMMENT

Should Archie Norman, finance director of Kingfisher, be revealed as the new chief executive of Asda today, it would be a rare and real coup for the troubled company, just when it is most needed. The extraordinary meeting may otherwise be a bad-tempered affair.

There is many a slip 'twixt interview and contract but the City would view Mr Norman as a first-rate choice for the job. He has ability, energy, confidence and youth. He is also good at sums, something the previous Asda management had trouble with if the pre-rights balance sheet is anything to go by.

Even Mr Norman, with his boyish enthusiasm and MBA from Harvard, will however, need a strong dash of luck and a pretty clever calculator to get Asda back on the right track. Those analysts who believe shareholders should take up their rights admit that the £357 million rescue package negotiated by the board will not be enough to see the company out of the woods.

Initially, the group's £931 million of debt will be reduced and pro-forma gearing will be

down to a manageable 36.6 per cent, 45 per cent if the convertible bond is included. Profits are under pressure, however, so it will take more than a squeeze on capital expenditure to keep borrowings down to a sensible level longer term.

Asset sales are an inevitability but asset sales were what the previous management failed to achieve two years ago when it bought the 60 Gateway supermarkets for £700 million. The lack of an asset revaluation at the time of the rights issue may also add to the difficulties.

Asda's salvation is likely to come in the form of a retrenchment to the north of England, its core market and the one it understands best. There are those who believe it would do best to transform itself into a discount retailer. This would mean the sale of its quality southern stores, something it has not contemplated before, but the

stakes are high, with Sainsbury paying £30 million for its new Southampton store. Retreat could be Asda's best and possibly only chance.

### Speak up

Behind the latest outbreak of hostilities between Euro-tunnel and its contractors lie two undeniable facts. The tunnel builders are being hurt by the worst conditions to hit their industry in more than a decade and they cannot tell shareholders how badly.

Sir Alastair Morton and his colleagues on the Eurptunnel board have the responsibility for telling their shareholders the implications of the dispute over £800 million of claims by Transmanche Link. For the

moment, Sir Alastair says that the claims have not been substantiated. His job, in this respect, is done.

Shareholders in the five British contractors that are members of TML are in a more unfortunate position. Under the contractual arrangements between TML and Eurotunnel, the individual companies carrying out the building work are sworn to silence. Journalists and others seeking information from BICC, Costain, Taylor Woodrow, Tarmac or Wimpey have become used to a polite form of words, constructed by lawyers, which deflects all questions and allows no answers.

Yet the closer the tunnel comes to its completion, the more urgently the question of provisions against losses or potential losses has to be considered by those who have invested in

shares of the consortium members. The sums involved are not peanuts. Outstanding claims may soon reach £1 billion, or £100 million apiece for the builders. The oath of silence has never made much sense. Now it seems unduly oppressive. Unless revoked, it could lead to a false market in the shares of companies concerned.

### Black shoots

Norman Lamont will have to go on relying on confidence surveys for a while yet as his main evidence that the economy is sprouting green shoots of recovery. The output figures for August were a bleak disappointment, just the type of bad month you get when the economy is bumping along the bottom.

Much of the sharp monthly downturn was due to the disappointing sales of new cars

for the J. registration. After building up stocks in July, the manufacturers cut back heavily in August. That accounts for virtually the entire 1 per cent drop in the seasonally adjusted figures for manufacturing output over the month.

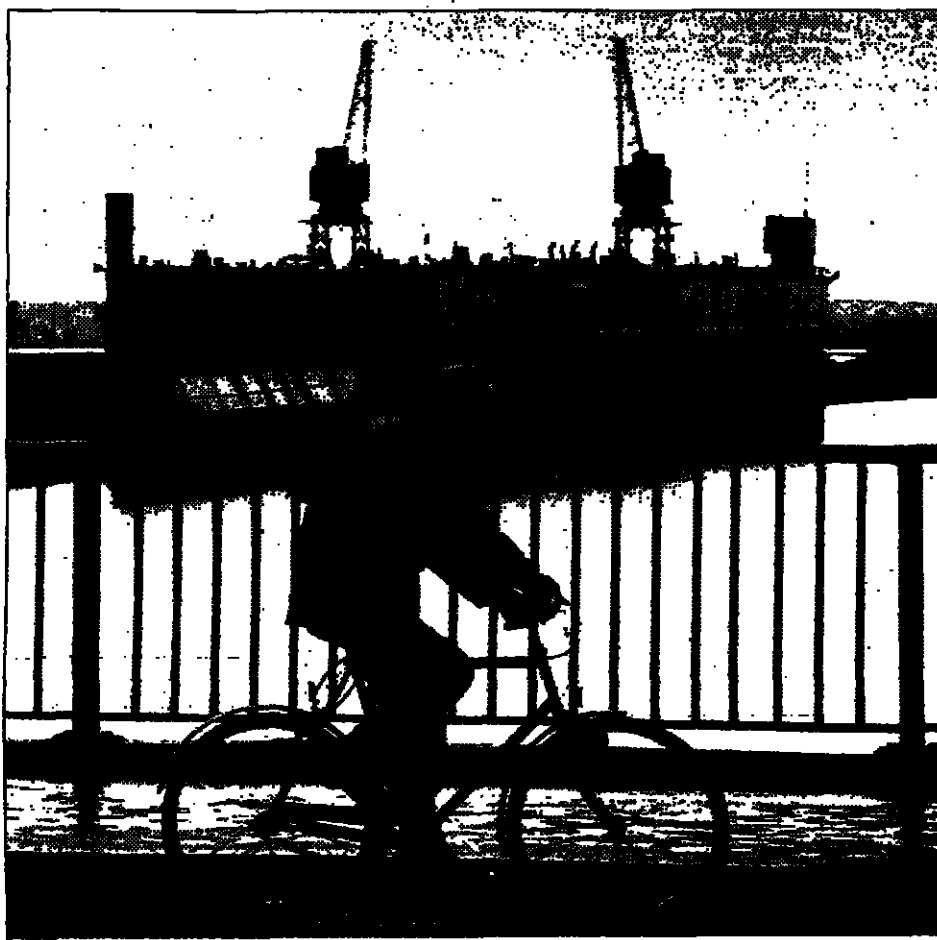
Much of the rest of the monthly production drop is due to an erratic fall in North Sea oil production along with the downturn in investment goods.

The good news is that the improving trend is unbroken on the more meaningful three month running figures. Manufacturing output is up 0.1 per cent quarter on quarter, the same as a month ago, after a continuous improvement from the 3.5 per cent quarter on quarter drop at the end of last year. The longer-term recovery in oil output has also left total production up 1.5 per cent over three months.

If any conclusion is to be drawn, it is surely that the beginning of recovery is likely to prove uncertain and slow, leaving embattled industrialists baffled by the supposed upturn until the spring. Voters may be baffled too.

## What's good for the world is bad for Barrow-in-Furness

In the second of three articles on defence cuts, Philip Bassett looks at the plight of towns dominated by the industry



End of the day: will the sun finally set on the VSEL shipbuilding yard at Barrow?

MIKHAIL Gorbachev may well be the most popular leader of the Soviet Union the world has ever seen. But not in Barrow-in-Furness. Since the Soviet president's reforms set in motion changes in the world order graphically exemplified by the Berlin wall coming down, the defence world – and the Cumbrian town of Barrow with it – has turned upside down.

What happens to Barrow is governed by what happens to the defence industry. What happens in defence governs what happens to VSEL, the Trident submarine yard that will carry Britain's future nuclear deterrent.

Barrow, Britain's most defence-dominated town, is at once a microcosm and an extreme example of what is happening to the defence sector. It is dominated physically by the 165-ft high Devonshire dock hall – known in the town as "Maggie's shed", after the prime minister who opened it five years ago – which looms over the town; and dominated in every other sense by VSEL, which employs more than half the town's working population.

VSEL managers will have been minutely scrutinising what Tom King, the defence secretary, said in the Commons defence debate over the past two days to pick up any clues, or hints of clues, about the future of Trident, and what happens after the Trident-building programme ends. Buffeted by the revolution over the past two years in the future of the defence industry, just turning on the

television can now be a voyage of discovery for VSEL as America or the Soviet Union announce more arms reductions with far-reaching implications for their suppliers.

Noel Davies, VSEL's chief executive, agrees "it's a bit like that" though he claims that most of the developments in defence, while fast-moving, are in line with the detailed corporate planning and projections VSEL has carried out since he returned to Barrow in 1989.

With 585,000 UK employees directly dependent on Britain's defence expenditure, there are few parts of the country unaffected when the defence industry contracts. But around the M25 or in the Bristol-Bath belt, cuts in defence, though economically painful, can at least be borne more easily than in Barrow.

Perched on the southern edge of the Lake District, an industrial centre in a rural tourist area, Barrow has little livelihood other than defence.

As a result, this natural Labour town has returned a Conservative MP since 1983, and it was this fact that forced the government into a little-noticed about-turn during the summer. Gritting his teeth, Peter Lilley, the fiercely non-interventionist trade secretary, announced a £16 million aid package for the area aimed at creating new jobs.

At the start of 1990, VSEL had 17,000 employees in the town; the real target is 5,000 by mid-decade.

Faced with Gordon Brown, Labour's industry spokesman, sweetly enquiring whether the government's regional aid policies had now been reversed, Mr Lilley said that the area "faces severe industrial and employment difficulties

over the next few years. The government recognises this and are not prepared to let the region fall into decline."

As well as the expected job fallout from the completion of the "Thorp" reprocessing project at Sellafield in neighbouring Cumbria, the area is already grappling with major job losses as VSEL adjusts to the changes in defence. At the start of 1990, VSEL employed 17,000; now that figure is below 11,000. In March, the company announced further reductions, to bring the workforce down to about 7,000, and the real target is 5,000 by mid-decade.

But not below that. For VSEL, 5,000 is Barrow's operational floor. Below that the yard cannot function economically. Going below that means closure. Not going below that depends on what the government intends to do with its next bout of warship spending. Two weeks ago, VSEL put in its bid for the new Type 23 frigates – the govern-

ment is committed to building up to three at a total programme cost of £1.74 billion.

VSEL is convinced that the only sensible way for the government to build the ships economically is to concentrate their construction, rather than by spreading the order around the five warship yards. But VSEL's corporate planning is based on there being only two warship yards in the future. If possible, it means to be one, and believes its order book, facilities, skills, nuclear capability and flexibility will be decisive; but of the others – its own Cannock Laith yard on Merseyside, GEC's Yarrow yard on the Clyde, Swan Hunter on Tyneside and Vosper Thornycroft at Southampton – it thinks only one will survive.

Barrow is buttressed by the £9.8 billion Trident programme. The first boat, Vanguard, is now 80 per cent complete and is due to be launched next spring. Victorious, the second, is 60 per cent ready, while Vigilant, the contract for which was awarded a year ago, is 30 per cent done.

The contract for the fourth is not yet signed but about 10 per cent of the work on it is already done. Though Labour has not been as specific, Tom King maintains that the Trident deterrent will need four boats. Any cuts in the programme, VSEL hopes, will be in missile or warhead numbers, rather than in boats; cancelling Trident remains the awful unthinkable.

Even with that, VSEL has been diversifying, trying to reposition itself through acquisitions and other moves in the highly competitive area of offshore construction work, but is inevitably finding the change difficult – moving from a stable-market, defence ministry-led culture to a market-led, differently managed and differently specified business like offshore engineering.

But whether or not the attempt to move into different areas works, for both VSEL and Barrow, and towns and businesses like them around Britain, even a smaller, post-Gorbachev, defence industry is still vital. "We will do our best to diversify," Mr Davies says, "but without a core business in defence this company would not survive."

## Brady offers Soviet Union nothing but moral support

NICHOLAS Brady, the American Treasury secretary, yesterday doubled the Bush administration's moral support for the Soviet Union, comparing its present transformations with the American revolution 200 years ago. But behind his enthusiastic rhetoric, Mr Brady pointedly failed to suggest any financial assistance for the Soviet Union or to modify his government's opposition to its early membership of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.

Separately, German and Soviet officials estimated that the Soviet government could face a foreign exchange shortage of between \$5 billion and \$10 billion in the next six months. But European officials said they had been assured that the Soviet Union had enough hard currency to service debts for at least the next two months. They denied that the Group of Seven had agreed a gold-backed loan to help the Soviet Union.

German officials said there had been no agreement on emergency financial measures because the most immediate problems facing the Soviet Union were political, not financial.

Mr Brady, delivering his main address to the IMF/World Bank meeting, urged that "no effort be spared" to help the Soviet Union address the "pressing problems of comprehensive reform". The changes in the Soviet Union "brought to mind the colonial American experience of making a fresh start and creating a new form of government," he added.

Over 200 years ago, the United States began its efforts to create stable institutions, a process which took decades to



Fine words: Nicholas Brady, US Treasury secretary

complete. Yet the Soviet Union is trying to accomplish a similar task in only a matter of months.

On details of assistance, however, Mr Brady stuck firmly to America's established formula of training, technical help and encouragement of private investment flows. Discussing the Soviet Union's future application for full membership of IMF and World Bank, which could make it eligible for loans of around \$10 billion annually, he was no more encouraging.

Three hours earlier, however, Michel Camdessus, the IMF's managing director, expressed the hope that spe-

cial association would lead to full membership "soon" and officials confirmed that the IMF could admit the Soviet Union within a year if it were not for American opposition.

European officials suggested, however, that America was not really attempting to block full Soviet membership. The Bush administration was simply trying to keep this prospect off the agenda at present because of concern that it might antagonise right-wing factions in Congress, which has to ratify the latest increase in financing for the IMF in the next few months.

ANATOLE KALETSKY  
Bangkok

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### Curry favours retirement

SIR Ernest Harrison, chairman of Racal, and Lady Harrison were among 100 well-wishers who gathered at the Dorchester, on Monday evening to bid farewell to John Curry, *maitre d'hôtel* at the Grill Room for the past 24 years. Curry, a dapper and discreet figure who is known to many of Britain's most influential business leaders, such as Lord Weinstock, stayed on after the hotel's £70 million refurbishment to pave the way for Jan Quero, his successor. Field Marshall Lord Bramall, who was chairman of the Dorchester until the hotel passed into the hands of the Brunei Investment Agency in May, for a tidy £500 million, says: "He never forgot a name or a face or a like or a dislike."

**Call of duty** DIRECTORS of Save & Prosper, the investment house, have held a belated welcome home party for Ian Lindsey,

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

director of banking, who was unexpectedly called away from his desk earlier this year. Lindsey, a Royal Air Force reservist, was whisked off to the Gulf in February to act as a press liaison officer during the hostilities. While in Riyadh, he heard on CNN news that interest rates in Britain had fallen, and immediately swung into action. "I borrowed a mobile telephone and called my deputy," says Lindsey.

**PICKFORDS**, the removal specialists, on hearing of last week's reorganisation at Pilkington, Europe's biggest glass manufacturer, offered to move the company's headquarters to Brussels lock, stock and barrel. "It's had to explain that the group headquarters will be remaining at St Helens and that the Pilkington glass people going to Brussels could

probably be accommodated in a fairly small van," says an amused spokesman.

**Swampy returns** OLDER hands in the City have been raising their glasses to Keith "Swampy" Swan, who is returning to his old

haunts after three years in the provinces. Swan, head of European trading at County NatWest from 1986-8, set up a stockbroking practice in Sidmouth, Devon. "It was too quiet," says Swan, who today joins John D McKeown, an American broker, to set up and run a European desk. He gained his nickname in the early Eighties, when a circular landed on his desk, addressed to a Mr Swamp.

**Sir Kenneth Cork** SIR Kenneth Cork, former Lord Mayor of London and one of the City's most respected ambassadors, has died at the age of 78 after a short illness. A father figure in the world of insolvency, and adviser to many of Britain's top companies, Sir Kenneth had a tremendous list of achievements to his name. "He was great fun to be with and had

the ability to enthuse people around him with his ideas," says a colleague from his days at Cork Gully, the insolvency firm of which Sir Kenneth was senior partner for nearly 40 years. He was appointed vice-chairman of Ladbroke in 1986.

Obituaries, page 18

### Showing metal

THE City's gold dealers have at last triumphed over their old adversaries at the London Metal Exchange. The scene of Monday's showdown was Blackmoore Golf Course, Hampshire, where the rivals were competing for the metal markets' equivalent of the Ryder Cup. John Coley of Sharps Pixley led a team from the London Bullion Markets Association to its first victory in five years, helped by John McArthur, managing director of Brink's Mat. Humble in victory, the LBMA is allowing the trophy – a silver-plated copper salver – to remain in its usual place in the LME cabinet in Plantation House.

JON ASHWORTH

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## By PHILIP PANGALOS

Polymark said the low levels of customer confidence evident in the group's domestic markets are expected to continue into next year.

New York:	
Dow Jones	3027.50 (+8.05)
S&P Composite	368.88 (+2.21)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	24307.55 (+448.95)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	40383.75 (+111.54)
FT-SE Euro 100	1095.49 (+8.98)
Stocks:	
CBS Tendency	80.5 (+1.0)
Sydney: AOX	1598.5 (+22.9)
Frankfurt: DAX	1985.04 (+14.00)
Commodities:	
General:	5509.06 (+6.95)
Paris: CAC	489.07 (+1.50)
Zurich: S&K Gen	506.8 (+0.6)
Options:	
FT - A1-Air Share	1241.92 (+0.82)
FT - "500"	1361.38 (+0.99)
FT - Gold Mkt	161.65 (+0.70)
FT - Gold Mkt	161.65 (+0.70)
FT - Govt Bonds	88.72 (+0.02)
Bargains	24881
Volume	524
USM (Dollars/m)	132.55 (-0.67)

been almost 14 points ahead. Trading conditions were described as thin although 534 million shares changed hands. Government securities spent a

The confirmation of the winners is expected to generate heavy trading. But as one market sage said: "Once the news is released, sell everything and give things a week to settle down."

Elsewhere, the equity market spent a frustrating day with an early, futures-led rally giving way to apathy as the institutions proved reluctant to chase prices higher. Worries that the opinion polls will show the Labour party improving its gains also unsettled sentiment.

The FT-SE 100 index finished 2.2 up at 2,576.7, having

been almost 14 points ahead. Trading conditions were described as thin although 534 million shares changed hands. Government securities spent a

lacklustre day with prices at the longer end losing 2%. It was again a day of mixed fortunes for the three companies with rights issues pend-

**FT-SE 100 VOLUMES**

	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000			
Abbey Net	1,510	Cadbury	1,299	Lorain	2,810	Royal Bank	83
Aldi-Lyons	1,838	CU	212	Lucas	4,796	Royal Ins	1,244
Anglian	315	Courtside	478	M&S	3,423	Sainsbury	1,299
ASDA	5,385	Enterprise	1,273	Maxwell Cm	268	Scott & N	41
As Foods	123	Eurotunnel	60	M&PC	185	Scott Power	2,068
Argus	674	Fisons	1,254	Midland	1,537	Sears	1,611
Argo Wigg	1,891	Fortis	728	Nat Power	5,458	Severn Trent	4,745
BAA	2,434	Fortis	728	Nat West	4,328	Shelf	84

[illegible]

Br Steel	11,398	Land Sec	605	RTZ	1,781	Whitford	397
Br Telecom	9,836	L&G	978	R-Royce	3,788	Williams	547
C&W	2,513	Lloyds	2,184	Rothmans "B"	187	Wills Cor	463

The oil companies enjoy an early week-end and

an early mark-up and managed to hold on to the bulk of their gains. Dealers point out that the oil sector has been neglected and that, despite the thin trading conditions, there is still plenty of money in the system. There were rises in BP, 5p to 347p, Barmah, 1p to 594p, Enterprise Oil, 15p to 523p, Lasso, 15p to 315p, Premier Consolidated Oilfields, 1p to 42p, and Shell 12p to 528p. The biggest turnover was in Ultramar, down 6p at 259p, as almost 7 million shares were traded. Analysts are starting to report on the trip made to Wilmington refinery in California.

Lloyds Chemists was steady at 280p after reporting an increase in full-year profits. Last week, the group's offer for MacCarthy, the pharmaceuticals group, unchanged at 269p, was referred to the monopolies commission. MacCarthy has also been the target of bids from UniChem, which changed at 187p, and Grauman Holdings, steady at 197p. St Ives, the printer which is handling the printing contracts for the British Telecom service, was unchanged at 250p after reporting a drop in profits.

Platinum, the pens and houseware group, was unchanged at 24p. Stanley Cohen, Platinum's joint non-executive chairman, has sold 16.4 million shares, at 2p each, and Queensway Securities, which is controlled by Mr Cohen, has sold a further 31 million shares at 2p each. They were placed with a number of institutions. The combined transaction is equivalent to 23.4 per cent of the

issued capital.  
MICHAEL CLAR

**New York — Blue chips ease**

in mid-morning but trading was choppy as investors waited for earnings releases. The Dow Jones industrial average slipped 3.45 to 3,016. IBM reported third-quarter profits of 30 cents a share, roughly in line with analysts' estimates.

□ Tokyo — Prices closed at their day's highs in the trading. The Nikkei index was up 446.98 points, or 1.87 percent, to 24,307.65.

□ **Sydney** — Expectations of an easing in monetary policy and strong gains in offshore markets drove prices sharply higher. Brokers said broad support for blue chips caused the all-ordinaries index to surge 22.7 points, or 1.45 per cent, to 1,586.5. (Reuters)

## RECENT ISSUES

Airbreak Leds	40
Alliance Res	

Capital Ventures	100
Clementort Smits (175p)	100
Contratex (100p)	100
County Strk Inv	100
Coutry Strk Inv	100
Cutter Hldgs (4p)	100
Dreyton Blue Chip (100p)	102
EPRI Inc Tst (65p)	100
Equi Germany Inv (100p)	100
Euromark	100
Eurocap (225p)	20
Fleming Emerg Mkt	100's +
Garmore Inc (100p)	100
Greenore Cap (100p)	100
Geared Inc (100p)	100
Greencore	20
Headline Book (100p)	100
Kellogg High Inc	100
Lazard Lambert (290p)	338
Manchester Unit (385p)	20
Mirror Group (125p)	90
Moorgate Smr Co (100p)	11
Norfolk Gold	20
Simpson of Cammell	100
Tollgate	100
US Smaller	102

● See main prices page for Electricity shares

<b>RIGHTS ISSUES</b>	
Crown Conns N/P	
Dewhirst N/P	
Domino Printing N/P	65 -
MB Caradon N/P	24 +
Porter Chadburn N/P	3
Starlin N/P	

*(Issue price in brackets).*

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1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	

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If you feel you are a self motivated team player, please send your CV, together with a hand written letter, to Ann Lamont, Personnel Officer, S J Berwin & Co, 236 Gays Inn Road, London WC1X 8BH, all applications will be treated in strictest confidence.

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An energetic young secretary is needed to assist a highly productive team within a large City based investment bank. The environment is quickly dynamic, the team successful and fun. With the latest technology at your fingertips, you'll produce high quality presentation material, reports and correspondence. (Experience of Microsoft Word for Windows is very useful). Willingness to take advantage of paid overtime, starting at 7.30am, is essential. Age 22-30. Typing 60wpm. Please call Elizabeth Williamson on 071-377 9919.

HOBSTONES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

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We are looking for a bright, motivated secretarial assistant for our Purchasing Team. This would suit someone who is prepared to become involved in all aspects of our Purchasing Department. Fast and accurate typing and the ability to work as part of a team are essential, as is a good sense of humour and the ability to work under pressure.

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#### SECRETARY

(17½ hours per week)  
£11K - £12½K (pro-rata)

We are looking for a secretary to work 17½ hours a week in a new research centre working on international environmental policy.

You will be interested in environmental problems and international development and in working in a university environment.

Application forms and further details from the Personnel Office, School of Oriental and African Studies, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London, WC1H 0XG (tel. 071-637 2388, ext. 2234).

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A line on paradise: fishing for steelhead on the Babine, in British Columbia, a landscape which diminishes man to utter insignificance

## Castaways in a land time forgot

Brian Clarke embarks on a long-distance hunt in the Canadian wilderness for the mighty steelhead, a fish suffering an identity crisis

The Babine River, in British Columbia, is some way removed from the Test Valley, in Hampshire. And the after-dinner advice being dispensed last month by old hands in the Babine Norlakes fishing camp — 500-odd miles north of Vancouver, 250 miles from the Pacific coast and deep in primeval forest — was somewhat different to that being given in the fishing huts around Stockbridge.

No talk of short-tempered bulls there, or of pot-holes on the bank to be avoided, or of the dangers of being stung by one of the keeper's bees. The talk in the Babine Norlakes camp was of bears — partly to encourage the greenhorn city-dwellers newly arrived, partly because the ten-foot bears loom almost as frequently on the riverbanks as they do in the psyche.

"Never turn your back on a grizzly," said one old wisecracker, slowly shaking his head over a glass of something amber. "Never get between a sow bear and her cubs," warned another. "If a grizzly charges, fall to the ground and play dead," advised a third — a somewhat esoteric piece of advice I thought then, and think now, given that if one of those fur mountains even looked like charging, the requirement for charades on my part would be wholly redundant.

I had gone to the Babine, one of the half-dozen world-famous tributaries of the vast Skeena river, to try for steelhead, a fish long described as the ocean-going version of the rainbow trout but recently reclassified as a salmon.

Whether trout or salmon, the steelhead is a formidable fish: salmon-sized, vibrant and volatile, powerful and aerobic. It is a fish that, in the heavy currents of the Babine and the

other Skeena rivers, can make reel-smoking runs of 150 yards and more; that can lash the water into splinters of light; that can break nerves and hearts as well as lines.

I did hook two and they both broke away. One of them a stupendous fish of 20lbs or so that the sheer watercraft and experience of Todd Stockner, my guide, effectively put on my line — "use this fly, cast it there, don't tighten until I say when".

Two, it needs to be said, is not the number I originally had in mind. Five was the target. In earlier years had taken 40 and 50 fish in a week. But last month, for the second time this year, I found myself halfway around the world with relatively little to fish for.

In March, it had been the Falkland Islands, where I had gone to catch sea trout and found insufficient water in the rivers to tempt the fish up from the sea.

Last month, the Babine, with the Bulkley, Kispix, Morice and the rest, also had very few of my principal quarry in them — partly because the early steelhead run was late, partly because those fish that had arrived back from the sea had been thinned out by the nets off the Skeena estuary.

It is the steelhead's misfortune that it chooses to return at the same time as the sockeye and pink salmon, and it falls foul of the drift nets the salmon fishers lay.

If we missed out on the steelhead, we missed out on little else. It is not the fish alone that draws, it is the

wilderness experience involved in its pursuit.

Time pursuing steelhead on a river like the Babine is time cut off from the outside world, with radio the only communication. All is reduced to great, columnar trees, to clear, racing water and to the patch of sky overhead.

The camp I stayed in was little more than a clearing 70 yards by 50 yards, fronting the river. There were half a dozen wooden huts with oil or wood-burning stoves, bunk beds, no running water, no hot water, no inside toilets and a single, communal shower. There were a great sense of camaraderie among the ten anglers there — five American doctors, a professor, a senior business manager and his wife, and two Englishmen — one of them me.

Many of the Americans had been going back year after year, one of them 20 years, delighting not only in the sport that was usually to be had but revelling in a boy scout kind of way, in the uncodified existence and the minimal impact on the environment that the camp was designed to make.

There were animals, and signs of animals, everywhere. There were bears (of course). They left salmon bitten clean in two on the river bank, and their own great five-toed pad marks in the mud.

There were other animals in the valley, in profusion — wolves (shy

creatures that, contrary to myth, do everything they can to avoid man), lynx, moose, beaver, bobcat, caribou and, higher up in the hills, mountain goats.

We saw bald eagles every day and ospreys most days. We saw, too, the poignant last journey of the countless Pacific salmon, every last one of which was to die after spawning.

The river was a conveyor belt of the living and the dead, the living moving upstream, the dead drifting past them on the way down.

All kinds of salmon — chinook, coho, pink, sockeye — pushed their way past us, their backs breaking the water, their fins catching the sunlight, their dark shadows hurrying and melting under the gravel and rocks. They swam under our rods when we were wading, brushed against our legs, even swam between our legs, their minds on a metabolic auto that beamed them only onwards to the thin light of the reeds.

And there were the spawned out bodies. They tumbled stiffly in the currents, rolled in the eddies, gleamed whitely from the depths, lay stiff and log-like in the margins, their eyes — where there were any eyes left — staring still. There were not dozens of such fish, or hundreds, or thousands. There were tens of thousands.

It would be impossible amid such primordial events, enacted on such a scale in a landscape which diminished man to utter insignificance, not to be moved, not to be made sharply aware of one's own mortality. And every one of us was.

To fish in such a place, under such circumstances, was a privileged experience. Missing the last of the season in cloistered, green Hampshire, beautiful though it is, was a small price to pay.

### RACING

## Vet gives Generous the all-clear for Champion

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

Generous is set to run in the Dubai Champion Stakes on Saturday after receiving the all-clear from a vet yesterday.

The results of blood tests carried out on the dual Derby winner yesterday morning were flashed within hours to Paul Cole who was attending the sales at Newmarket.

"The vets have passed Generous as OK and provided he works well in the morning he will run," he said. "After all, he has got 20 years to get over it." Alan Munro will partner Generous during the first lot at Whatcombe today and Cole will then speak to the jockey and Prince Fahd Salman before making a final decision.

Tests conducted on the Tuesday after Generous' disappointing performance in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe revealed an abnormal blood-count and Cole wondered if the reason for the horse's poor run had been identified at last.

However, yesterday's results would suggest the problem lay elsewhere. "We thought it was a blood problem but it would appear it isn't. We had a virus in the yard about two-and-a-half months ago which hit Dilmun and one or two others, including Zoman, who was in the box next to Generous. It could be a carry-over from that but really we are

back to square one in not knowing."

Cole is insistent, however, that the poor run is not due to Generous having been "got at" while at Longchamp. Apart from being guarded round the clock before the race, a privately conducted dose test afterwards showed nothing untoward.

Since returning from Paris, Generous has returned to his normal routine. He had two canterers and a bit of light work last Wednesday before being put through his paces on Saturday. "We didn't ask him to do too much on Saturday and he won't be asked to do too much in the morning," the trainer added.

Marju, off the course since the Eclipse Stakes in July, completed her final piece of serious work before Saturday's group one contest and delighted John Dunlop.

The St James's Palace Stakes winner has been treated for injured stiffl joints and the medication appears to have been successful.

"He worked his usual way, satisfactorily," Dunlop said. "A veterinary examination afterwards showed he is 100 per cent so we are on course and he runs unless something happens between now and then." Willie Carson rides.

Lester Pigott will ride Risma, impressive winner of the Sun Chariot Stakes at Newmarket earlier this month. Fillies have won 12 of the last 18 runnings of the Champion Stakes and the slightly higher-strung daughter of Kris evidently likes her local course.

"She seems to like running at home and we have been taking her down to the course and schooling her in the paddock and walking her around," Gosden said.

Drum Taps, who has won the Geoffrey Freer Stakes and the Cumberland Lodge Stakes since returning from the United States, is an almost certain absentee from the Champion.

The five-year-old is likely to make the journey to Milan for the lucrative Gran Premio Del Jockey Club E Coppa d'Oro. Soma and Marcus Thorpe are other possible British challengers.

□ Suave Dancer, winner of the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, will not make the trip to Churchill Downs for the Breeders' Cup Turf. Owner Henri Chailouard and trainer John Hammond will be represented instead by Dear Doctor, who has recently finished second in both the Man O'War Stakes and the Turf Classic.

### Chepstow

Going: good (good to soft patches home straight).

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## GOLF

# Montgomerie gets early chance to renew Cup rivalry

By MITCHELL PLATTIS  
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

COLIN Montgomerie will renew his rivalry with Mark Calavecchia in the first round of the Toyota World Match Play Championship on the West course at Wentworth tomorrow.

Montgomerie recovered from five down with nine holes to play, and from four down standing on the 15th tee, to win half a point from his demoralised American rival in the Ryder Cup in South Carolina last month.

There was an immediate suggestion that the draw, made yesterday at Wentworth, had been rigged. Both Montgomerie and Calavecchia appeared less than surprised about facing each other again. In fact, Calavecchia, arriving from the United States, accepted it as inevitable.

"I predicted it when I saw who was in the field," he said. "I said that I would be up against Colin in round one. But I don't have a thought of revenge in my head. I just know I will have to go out there and play well to beat him."

## Gallacher likely to stay

BERNARD Gallacher has reached a decision on whether to remain as Europe's captain for the Johnny Walker Ryder Cup match at The Belfry in 1993, but will not make an official announcement until November 28 (Mitchell Plattis writes).

Gallacher said yesterday: "The Ryder Cup committee will be meeting on that day and I want to do things by the book. I enjoyed the experience at

Standard positions in brackets:  
1990 and 1991: T. P. (US) (8) v W. Andrus (US); winner to play J. Woosnam (Wales) (1).  
1989 and 1990: F. Couples (US) (5) v N. Oat (Japan); winner to play S. Ballesteros (Spain) (4).  
1988 and 1989: M. Calavecchia (US) (6) v C. Montgomerie (US); winner to play N. Faldo (England) (3).  
1987 and 1988: N. Price (Zimbabwe) (7) v S. Richardson (England); winner to play J. Baker-Finch (Australia) (2).

on this course." Montgomerie, who lost a play-off for the Volvo PGA championship to Severiano Ballesteros at Wentworth in May, said: "It's strange it came out of the hat that way. Let's just say that the European Tour categorises its draws, and that this isn't any different."

Montgomerie, though, welcomed the opportunity of taking on Calavecchia again, especially as the reward for winning will be a match in the quarter-finals against Nick Faldo. "I have the chance now to bring my match with Mark to a conclusion over 36 holes and to prove who is the better player," Montgomerie said. Calavecchia was so distraught following his 6, 7, 6, 5 finish on the Ocean Course

that he initially sought to escape from Kiawah Island prior to being cajoled by his wife to regroup with his team colleagues as they fought to regain the Ryder Cup. There was no more relieved player than the 1989 Open champion when Hale Irwin finally secured victory for the United States by overcoming Bernhard Langer on the last green.

"I still couldn't sleep on the Sunday night," Calavecchia said. "And I didn't sleep well the next night. But when the mail came not one of the 30 letters had anything bad to say and one, from Arnold Palmer, was positively uplifting."

Yet the most puzzling aspect of this event is how Calavecchia, who has not won since his Open victory at Royal Troon, came to be invited in the first place.

John Daly, the US PGA champion, Payne Stewart, the US Open champion, and Corey Pavin, No. 1 in the US PGA Tour money list, all declined invitations. But Calavecchia is only 48th in the US PGA Tour money list and twentieth in the Sony world rankings. Others above him in the ranking list who have been ignored include José-Maria Olazábal, who is second and has won three tournaments this year, Greg Norman (fourth), Bernhard Langer (eighth) and Paul Azinger (ninth).

Meanwhile Ian Woosnam, the defending champion, has been seeded No. 1 ahead of Ian Baker-Finch, the Open champion, Nick Faldo and Ballesteros. Steven Richardson, the other British player in the field, must play Nick Price of Zimbabwe, in the first round.

## Caddies cost Muscroft title

RICHARD Muscroft's hopes of winning the G and M Sports Management PGA north region assistants championship at The Portal, in Torporey, Cheshire, were ended in the cruellest fashion yesterday (a Special Correspondent writes).

Muscroft, aged 26, had ended the day at the top of the leaderboard with a level par total of 146, only to be disqualified on a rule technicality.

The assistant at the West Bowling club and a former

Great Britain and England amateur international was given permission to use an electric caddy cart for his caddy, Debbie Campbell, during the tournament.

However, the cart was driven by Sean Fitzgerald, the assistant professional at Roundhay, and it was discovered that having two caddies was against the laws of the game. PGA officials had no option but to disqualify Muscroft.

David Shacklady, of Orms-

kirk, and Mark Rogers, of Darlington, who finished one shot behind Muscroft, played off for the title. Shacklady sinking a 30-foot birdie putt at the second extra hole to claim victory.

LEADING SCORES: 147: D. Shacklady (Ormskirk), 72, 75; M. Rogers (Darlington), 73, 74 (Shacklady won at second extra hole). 148: C. Campbell (Torporrey), 72, 76; A. Collins (Cheshire), 73, 75; D. Pearce (Barnard Castle), 74, 74; D. Lockett (Rudyard), 77, 74; C. Goldstone (Barnhill), 78, 73; A. L. Delaney (Cheshire), 78, 73.

## BOXING

## Board to legislate against hype

By SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

BOXING promoters and managers have been warned by the British Boxing Board of Control against using hype to sell tickets. In a letter to all promoters and managers, the board said it would take disciplinary action against anyone found to be encouraging personal animosity between boxers to sell a promotion.

The warning comes after criticism of the hype that preceded the World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight championship bout between Chris Eubank and Michael Watson last month, during which Watson suffered serious brain injury. The board, however, said it had not been "swayed by recent comments against this kind of hyping."

In the letter, it said: "The board has been concerned about pre-fight publicity that seems to stress personal animosity between two boxers taking part in a contest. It may be, from time to time, that there will be genuine animosity and this cannot be avoided. However, the board does not wish any hyping of such animosity to be used to boost interest in a particular

contest. Nor must anything similar be created to help publicity, even when the boxers may be good friends privately.

"On any occasion that the board or an area council feels this is happening, then it will take action and bring cases under the regulations against those involved. This does not mean that rivalry between boxers will not be built up to sell a show, only that any encouragement of personal animosity, whether real or created, will lead to action by the board."

Officials of the board and Peter Hamlyn, the surgeon who performed the brain operation on Watson, will meet Robert Atkinson, the minister for sport, today for talks on safety measures at boxing matches and will do so in the light of some encouraging news.

For the first time since he went into a coma, Watson was reported yesterday to be showing tentative signs of recovery by responding to light and touch. Hamlyn described Watson's responses as signs of hope, adding: "It is perhaps the very first steps in a very long road to some sort of recovery."

## French coach says 80 minutes' concentration essential at Parc des Princes

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Powerhouse: Geoghegan must be used to the full if Ireland are to challenge Australia

## Ireland's prayer on a wing

FROM BRYAN STILES IN DUBLIN

AS IRELAND prepared for their daunting quarter-final against Australia on Sunday, Ken Reid, their manager, was enjoying himself in Belfast, watching the Japanese fill over-cast Ravenhill with sunshine rugby. Reid, the headmaster of a school in the city, must have picked up a few lessons to pass on to his Irish team as Japan routed Zimbabwe 52-8 on Monday.

He saw the Japanese implement the ancient adage that attack is the best form of defence and that wings can set the game alight and win matches.

Yoshida, the Japanese left wing, plays like a pocket-sized Simon Geoghegan, the blond-headed crackjack on the Irish touchline, but he has a big advantage over the Irishman: he is given the ball regularly.

He created one of the best tries of the tournament, against Ireland last week, and on Monday he scored two against Zimbabwe and set up chances for his colleagues. Like

Geoghegan, he has the ability to beat defences with eccentric, unpredictable running and odd-ball thinking.

Set either of them loose with space in which to manoeuvre and they can be devastating. Give them the ball in tight situations and they are still likely to wriggle, jig or samba their way into the clear.

The Irish will ignore their match-winning wing at their peril against the Australians. It could be argued that their inability to feed Geoghegan even once from set play at Murrayfield on Saturday deprived them of valuable points.

When the Ireland management team was asked why the side had relied solely on the tactical kicking of their half backs, Keyes and Saunders, instead of moving the ball wide, Phillip Matthews, the captain, said he was not sure whether the possession they had won was clean enough or quick enough for them to spin the ball out. He would have to look at video

tapes of the match before deciding whether they had chosen the right options.

The analysis will hopefully lead to a willingness to bring Geoghegan and his other live wire wing, Keith Crossan, into the game more often. The rare occasions on which Geoghegan was able to show his worth was in the frenzied dying minutes when Ireland threw caution to the wind in an effort to chase victory. Even then, he had to forage in broken play to find the ball. The Australians are guaranteed to get their money's worth out of their wings.

The Ireland manager will also have been impressed with the way the Japanese regrouped after the breakdown of an attack. Their forwards and backs slot quickly into position to launch the next assault.

Rapid reorganisation will be needed throughout the game against Australia on Sunday as they strive for what will probably be a semi-final meeting with the All Blacks.

## US look to the grass roots

By DAVID HANDS

THE United States and Italy have departed the World Cup with only one foot in success between them, but already their plans for the future have been laid. The United States hope next year to play nine or ten international games against "peer-group" nations, while the Italians can offer their young team further exposure in the student world cup, which they will stage next summer.

Ed Schram, the American manager, said invitations had already gone to Italy and Spain to tour. Moreover, on top of the annual fixture with Canada, the United States hope to meet Hong Kong and South Korea.

The Americans' greatest need, though, is to increase the level of domestic competition. "Cover the last two years of our infrastructure has been in need of development," Jim Perkins, the Eagles coach, said. "The challenge is to build a strong base of coaching and player-develop-

ment and a national league which allows our top players to play competitive rugby week in and week out."

As it is, the leap from club to international rugby can only be bridged by a rolling programme of international matches. Perkins identified an improvement in his players by the time they

played France in July, following games against Japan, Scotland and Canada, the only sadness for the Eagles was their poor performance against Italy at Orkney earlier this month.

The Italians, however, indicated by their brave display against New Zealand that their rugby has advanced. That team has an average age of 26 and Bertrand Fourcade, their coach, expressed confidence that, with the encouragement, Italy would be even more competitive in the 1995 World Cup.

It should be remembered, too, that a hard core of the squad came from the Mediolanum club of Milan, where the coach is Mark Ella. With David Campese likely to rejoin Milan after the World Cup, it is inconceivable that these two visionary Australians will not produce an attractive side which has already among its ranks the two Cutitta brothers and the big-kicking Massimo Bonomi.

## England training knocks out the Jersey cobwebs

By DAVID HANDS  
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ENGLAND returned to World Cup work with a vengeance in Paris yesterday. Batteries recharged after their family weekend in Jersey, the players endured one of their most intensive training sessions as the build-up began to Saturday's quarter-final at the Parc des Princes against France.

"That session was more intense than most matches," Nigel Heslop, the Orrell wing, said. Heslop is one of those most in contention to force his way into the England team, which will be named tomorrow.

There were fierce exchanges at the Montmorency club, to the north of the city, as players came together at scrum and ruck — Dean Richards and Brian Moore spilled out of one maul — with the medical team seeing almost as much action as the squad members.

"After a relaxing weekend in Jersey we needed that and the players specifically requested a very rigorous workout," Will Callaghan, the captain, said. At least England's injury worries are minimal. Jeff Probyn's knee ligament injury having cleared up.

The French must decide whether Didier Camberabero's rib injury will allow him to be named in their team today. Camberabero left the field against Canada on Sunday and, if he is not fit, Thierry Lacroix, the Dax stand-off, will play.

France have struggled to put together their most effective attack, but Daniel Dubroca, their coach, said of the 19-13 pool win over Canada: "In my opinion 70 per cent of our problems were

mental. Our minds were not on the game. But it won't be difficult to get motivated to play England at Parc des Princes. We will have to be fully concentrated for 80 minutes to beat England. It's the only way."

Craig Chalmers has a better than even-money chance of playing for Scotland against Western Samoa in the quarter-final at Murrayfield on Saturday. The Melrose stand-off, who sustained deep bruising to his thigh against Ireland last Saturday, has been receiving treatment in a swimming pool in St Andrews, and in a borrowed oxygen chamber.

Scotland's swollen knee has improved considerably, but Scotland may save him for a possible semi-final game. If so, they would play Graham Shiell at inside-centre.

Ma'aia Keenan, the Western Samoa lock who appeals against his suspension from Saturday's quarter-final against Scotland will be heard in London this morning, to play for London Irish after the World Cup. Keenan will not be eligible for their 1992 league programme, but will bring to bear his experience from a long representative career in Auckland.

## Canada lay down the challenge

FROM CHRIS THAU IN LILLE

CANADA'S gallant performance against France in Agen on Sunday has confirmed their status among the leading rugby-playing nations in the world. With it has come a challenge to the established nations.

"The days when we could be treated condescendingly are gone," Mike Luke, the Canadian manager, said yesterday as his side prepared for a quarter-final here against the world champions, New Zealand, on Sunday. "We have proved ourselves. There was a healthy lack of respect for the established nations in our approach."

"And who are those nations anyway? Wales? Ireland? I was born in Cornwall while Ian Birtwell (the coach) was born in the north of England. In both these regions there is a healthy disrespect for London rugby, the old boy network and what it represents. This is the feeling in the Canadian team about the condescending way we have been treated by the European nations," Luke said.

"We are fed up with the old pat on the shoulder... well done, boys... we are fed up with the raised eyebrows of the so-called establishment, when we do well."

"New Zealand and Australia have been very supportive. There has been a marked difference between their attitude and that of the European nations," he added.

According to Luke, the spirit of the Canadian challenge against the French, which ended in a 19-13 defeat, was embodied in the skirmish between Chris Tynan, the Canadian scrum-half, and Pascal Ouedats, the French prop. "I have not seen what had triggered off that

incident, Luke said. "But when I saw little Tynan, 60lb lighter than his opponent, taking punches unflinchingly and then answering back in kind, I thought that this was the symbol of the Canadian challenge."

The match in Agen was emotional. Canada had been well prepared technically and tactically by Birtwell and Luke, who also acts as assistant coach. "There was nothing left to chance," Birtwell said. "We worked carefully and analysed every aspect of both their play and ours."

Birtwell is known to present each of his players with a five-page written performance analysis after every match. "We only plan up to a certain point," he said. "Basically it is a tactical plan designed to maximise our strength and minimise theirs. We are aware that the best team in the world could be disrupted. We leave the rest to the individual."

Canada's rise is not the product of chance. It is the result of a long-term plan known as Rugby Canada, launched in 1986, with the blessing of the Canadian RFU, by a group of ambitious businessmen led by Dennis Veitch, the manager of the 1987 World Cup squad.

Despite a healthy infrastructure which is now in place, the huge distances between locations have prevented the development of a nationwide domestic network.

Canada's journey from the also-rans to the last eight of the World Cup mirrors the development of the formidable 6ft 8in lock forward, Norman Hadley, in 1986. He was a tall, brawling youngster full of promise and ambition. Five years, and two seasons in New Zealand, later, he has evolved into a formidable competitor in the lineout and around the field. Luke paid tribute to the help received from New Zealand. "This is why we approach the game against them with a feeling of déjà vu. Since 1987 we have been taking part in an annual series called the Canz series involving Rugby Canada, New Zealand provinces and two Argentine clubs. This has helped our progress."

For the quarter-final, Mark Wyatt, the Canadian captain and goalkicker, is expected to have recovered from the pulled muscle which forced him to leave the field against France.



Wyatt expects to play

## Compelling spell of the Michelin men

By PETER BARNARD

SOME years ago, when I was living briefly in Frankfurt, a group of us went to see a Woody Allen film which was showing at two cinemas in the city, the English version at one and the dubbed, German version at the other.

We were in our seats and watching the opening credits before we realised we were in the wrong cinema. The next couple of hours were a complete mystery, but, in a strange way, entertaining. The feeling returned over the weekend when Channel 4 staged sumo wrestling from the Albert Hall — a complete mystery, but, in a strange way, entertaining.

To the untrained eye, nothing much happens in sumo wrestling. This may be part of the attraction; you feel that a few seconds spent gazing out

### SPORT ON TELEVISION

#### THE WEEK IN REVIEW

great deal of skill. What I cannot quite grasp is why anyone would want to do it and why several thousand people, most of them with no sense of the sport's tradition (and a majority of them, apparently, women), should pack the Albert Hall to watch.

Channel 4 — who else? — put on the wrestling and of course this is not the only arena into which other channels fear to tread. No doubt there are plenty of people as mystified by American football as I am by sumo wrestling. On Sunday, Channel 4 showed us the Washington Redskins pulverising Cleveland.

Can he delay talking about the Rugby World Cup much longer? I thought you were thinking that. I have tried to avoid it, honest, but certain aspects of ITV's coverage demand attention.

ITV put in a bold bid for the World Cup and did well to secure it against BBC opposition, given that the BBC is the game's traditional home. After this, Auntie will have to pull her suspenders up because ITV is doing a good job.

The trouble with commercial television, though, is that it sometimes seems not to know where to stop. On Sunday, for example, we were presented with a quite ridiculous piece of "entertainment", which involved Clive Norling leading the studio team in a kind of rap version of the signals referees use.

This was an under-hearsed piece of nonsense which looked as if it had been taped in a third-rate disco. You could not hear what most of the signals meant; therefore, the exercise was pointless.

Frank Bough and company

seemed to find it highly amusing. They also looked as if they enjoyed the spectacle of Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, singer of the official World Cup theme, being tossed about and generally behaving in an undignified manner with sundry players.

Is this sport? No, this is showbiz. Sport has enough people trying to turn it into showbiz for their own ends without ITV joining in. The sight of this silliness must have gladdened a few BBC hearts, unless of course the rugby authorities have come to believe their game must be "sold" at all costs.

In which case, I feel sorry for rugby. I may not understand sumo and it may not ever join the pantheon of leading sports. But at least it shows no sign of conceding its dignity in exchange for popularity.

### FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

European Championship

Group Two

Romania v Scotland (at Szau Stadium, 5.00)

Group Four

Northern Ireland v Austria (at Windsor Park)

Group Five

Germany v Wales (Nuremberg, 8.15)

Group Seven

England v Turkey (Wembley, 8.00)

Poland v Republic of Ireland (Poznan, 5.00)

FA Cup: Third qualifying round replays: Derby Utd v Gillingham; VS Rugby v Crawley; Chesham v Bournemouth; Torquay v Hampton

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Portsmouth v Chelsea; Charlton v Luton; Millwall v Reading; Second division: Huddersfield v Burnley; Hull v Oldham; Third division: Exeter v Colchester; Rotherham v Barnet; Torquay v Collier Row

NPS LEAGUE: Premier division: Gillingham v Colwyn Bay; Redcliffe Borough v Lancaster City

POINTNS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Newcastle v Leeds (7.00); Barnsley v Bradford (7.00); Sunderland v Bolton (7.00); West Bromwich v Manchester Utd (7.00); Second division: Blackpool v Derby (7.00); Huddersfield v Burnley; Hull v Oldham (7.00); Third division: Exeter v Colchester; Rotherham v Barnet; Torquay v Collier Row

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: Brighton v Chelsea (7.15); Fulham v Luton (7.15); Walsley v Oxford Utd; Wimbledon v Walsley

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford v Tiverton; Chappenhorn v Frome; Salway v Exmouth; Torrington v Liskeard Athletic

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Norwich Utd v Ipswich

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Carlisle v Belper; Sutton Town v Stockbridge

Under-21 International

Wales v Ireland (Newport, 7.00)

CLUB MATCH: Huddersfield v Walsley

OTHER SPORT

GOLF: PGA four-ball championships (East Sussex)

SHOOTING: Rathmore grand prix (Rathmore)

### GROUP FOUR







